

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE RENEWAL OF SPRING.

Ice-ribbed winter has moved off at last, after a long and dreary reign. Loath seemed the stern old monarch to depart, and, as if determined to dispute the ground with his successor, sent back his body-guard of frost and snow again and again. Whilst he lingered, timid and bashful were the advances of young Spring. Her port was hesitating. Her footsteps were as often backward as forward. The earliest smile upon her fresh and blooming countenance was quickly overshadowed, as the brilliancy of morning, not unfrequently, is chased away by envious mists. But here she is at length in virgin purity, and with her gentle, affectionate heart! See! All things hasten to welcome her return. The meadows don their new clothes, and deck themselves with their brightest ornaments. The skies, as though touched for the first time with the tenderer emotions, laugh and weep by turns. The trees fling about their graceful forms their many-hued mantles, as who should say, "Let us do her grateful homage." The insect tribes hum their tiny song of love in her listening ear, and birds, in various notes, but all glad some, carol her praises. Man, too, seems happy in her return, and many a pale invalid, like a deputation from the realms of sickness, ventures forth from his chamber, his winter's prison, and sobs and smiles his heartiest greetings of re-appearing Spring.

Not, we have sometimes thought—not, by any means, an inapt representation this, of changes which sometimes occur in the moral world. Thus has it been, in more respects than one, with that movement which, during the past week, claimed, to so large an extent, our thoughts and hearts. Scarcely had the cold season of utter indifference been invaded by the more than anticipated success of the first Anti-state-church Conference, and we had hailed the return of light and warmth, when chilling damps descended from the upper regions of Dissent, and bleak blasts blew from that quarter whence they usually blow, to make fresh trial of our patience, by deferring our fondest hopes. The atmosphere was so full-charged with doubt, that the display of principle ever seemed to insure the collecting of fresh clouds—clouds which would neither pass away, nor break in showers, but which hung heavily, like a funereal pall, over our prospect, and gave a tint of gloom to all beneath them. There was just enough of progress to certify that the passing season was one of advance—here and there a budding forth of local energy. There were signs, plain enough to those who searched for them, of brighter days and of future triumph. Wintry phenomena thrust themselves upon our shrinking sense at longer intervals and with growingly-diminished power. But the air was not balmy; the land was not green. And there were men amongst us who toiled, and watched, and hoped—now wondering if genial times would ever bless their labours, and now sighing in silent disappointment at the re-appearance of old symptoms, and the unexpected obtrusion of new discouragements. Oh! it seemed to them a weary time, and they often asked each other, in their anxiety to while it away, "How long? how long?"

Well! it has come at last, so suddenly that we know not well how to realize it. The damps are dispersing—the clouds are rolling away. Hurrah for the spring! Doubtless, many a cheerless day is yet before us—but for all that, spring is spring. Everywhere there is a spontaneous bursting forth of interest in the Anti-state-church question—vigorous in some places—hesitating, but still cognizable, in others. Mark how old suspicions, which once seemed irremovable, are disappearing! and perplexities and hostilities, shone upon by the same radiant principle, are hastening to oblivion! No need now for artificial forcing. The external atmosphere draws out all that is sound and vital into active development. Innumerable

able minds are opening to the light of truth and duty. Reason and religion are recovering to life and beauty much that lay hidden beneath prejudice and doubt. The Nonconformist world wakes up to a consciousness of responsibility. It takes its old attitude of independence. It has shot above its party alliances, and thrown off, we trust for ever, its party sympathies. There is hope as well as determination in the aspect it assumes—simplicity of purpose and earnestness of resolve—union and energy—calmness and strength. Is it not natural that we should be glad? Should we not be churlish and ungrateful if we refused to rejoice?

We have likened the change which has come over the spirit of Dissenters to the renewal of spring. The comparison holds good as well in reference to the prime moving cause as to the marvellous results. The events permitted by Divine Providence, and therefore comprehended within the scope of His unerring plan—the course taken by successive Governments on mixed ecclesiastical questions which they might if they would have avoided—must be regarded by all as the potential elements which have brought about this most desirable consummation. No man amongst us can boast of holding any nearer relation to the present state of feeling among Nonconformists than does the husbandman to the renovation of the face of the earth. Human instrumentality has been employed, with more or less diligence and perseverance, in sowing the seeds of a great truth; but the quickening energy which has made them germinate is from without, from above. There have been influences at work, generated by no sagacity of man, which, had they been withholden, would have left us little to exult in. Hence, the vast importance of the present crisis. It is evidently brought about by the Supreme Governor—and He never acts without a purpose. To ascertain that purpose, to acquiesce in it promptly, and to act in hearty unison with it, is our first duty, our highest safety, our proudest honour. Let Dissenters everywhere ponder this! Providence is so arranging affairs as to compel them to retreat upon their principles. This is the one cogent lesson imparted upon the outward course of things. Thousands have acknowledged this, and will, we cannot doubt, follow up their acknowledgment by deeds of corresponding obedience, and their faith will stand, "not in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

Such are the thoughts suggested to our minds by the late Triennial Conference. A nobler gathering we never witnessed. The numbers, the character, the spirit, the enthusiasm, and withal, the self-moderation, of that assembly, taken as a whole, excite our most sanguine expectations of unusually large results. Representative of most classes of Dissenters, of many creeds and systems of ecclesiastical discipline, the unanimity displayed by it, not only in reference to ultimate principles, but to practical duty, was extraordinary. If this be really a type of the feeling now abroad, then are we standing on the very threshold of the great conflict which will eventually terminate in the liberation of religion from every species of State interference. Such a concentration of will upon the object we have laboured in our sphere to promote we had not dared even to hope for—such a determined renunciation of party connexions, such frank confessions of past mistakes, such calm earnestness of tone, took us fairly by surprise. And now, the excitement inseparable from meetings of this stamp is over. It remains for each one of us to take up his post, and to do quietly and in retirement what we pledged ourselves to do when collected together under the eye of the public. The General Election is at hand. On this subject, the Conference gave out no "uncertain sound." And, should its recommendations be extensively carried into effect, according to our confident hope, the friends of the cause represented by the British Anti-state-church Association—the cause of truth's emancipation, and the deliverance of religion from a vile and degrading thralldom—will have reason to look back with proud recollection upon the Triennial Conference of 1847 as the commencement of a brighter and more glorious era than any we have yet seen.

We understand that the Reverend T. Mozley, brother-in-law of Mr. Newman, has resigned his vicarage of Cholderton, Wilts.—*Morning Post*.

THE NEW BISHOP.—The Hon. and Rev. R. J. Eden, M.A., has been appointed to the bishopric of the Isle of Man and Sodor.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Yesterday, the seventeenth annual assembly of the Congregational Union of England and Wales was held in Crosby-hall. The meeting being opened by prayer, Dr. HAMILTON, chairman of the Union, read an address, so admirably appropriate to the occasion, as to draw from the brethren assembled, upon the motion of Dr. RAFFLES, seconded by Dr. LEIFCHILD, a unanimous and earnest request that the chairman would kindly permit its immediate publication. To this he has acceded, and we have pleasure in announcing that it will be ready for distribution before the members have separated. The topics alluded to are of such pressing importance, and were, moreover, introduced in so skilful a manner, and so much to the satisfaction of all present, that the document will serve as an unmistakable evidence of the thorough resuscitation of earnest nonconforming feeling effected by the course of policy which the present Government has thought proper to adopt. The principles of Congregationalism were shown to have been always the same, and their adherents, it was proved, had ever had to struggle for their support under great disadvantages. They were witnesses for the truth, and were compelled to bear their witness in sackcloth and ashes. The instruments they employed for the propagation of their distinctive opinions were not carnal. They could command neither wealth nor patronage, nor law, whereby to secure deference for their views, or extension of their principles. These were means from the employment of which they were excluded. It was their work to persuade men to worship God in a way contrary to law, and the only weapons they could use were spiritual. From these facts it was inferred that self sacrifice was a necessary condition of the permanent integrity of the Congregational body. These were times when it was especially necessary to reflect on this. The present was a period of very great moment. The Minutes of her Majesty's Council on Education would put them to the test. Whatever might have been, or may still be, the differences of opinion as to the abstract question of the right of the State to interfere in the education of the people, there was a unanimous condemnation of the scheme proposed by her Majesty's Government, and it was to be hoped there would be found among them no Gehazi who would seek after the bribe that had been thus repudiated. But it is impossible to convey a correct idea of the spirit of the production, and we must therefore content ourselves with recommending such of our readers as can procure it, when published, to ponder its contents carefully, and to carry out the course of conduct which it suggests.

The Secretary, Mr. Algernon Wells (Independent minister) then read the report. The various objects of the Union, and the plans for more extended operation, were explained in the usual lucid manner, and its adoption was moved by Mr. John Kelly, of Liverpool, minister, and seconded by D. Derry, Esq., of Plymouth. Both the speakers referred to that part of the report in which the committee spoke of the late ecclesiastical encroachments in the colonies, against which it felt itself constrained to protest; and from their statements, as well as from the report, it would appear that it is high time that special attention should be given by the entire Nonconformist body to the protection of the spiritual interests of that portion of the colonists who sympathise with our views of religious freedom. It seems that in some of the colonies, the Wesleyans, as well as the Episcopalians, have received State aid.

The proceedings were here briefly interrupted by a most agreeable episode. Mr. Blackburn introduced a minister of the Established Church in Holland, who has been engaged in translating some of the works of Mr. John Angell James, Independent minister of Birmingham. The gentleman spoke in tolerably good English, to the effect that he had some time since given to his countrymen, in the Dutch language, Mr. James's invaluable work, "the Anxious Enquirer;" and that to the instrumentality of that book he could directly trace the conversion of many who were now useful and honourable members of Christ's Church. He was then induced to translate other of the same author's works; and his principal object in coming to that meeting was, that he might be gratified by a personal acquaintance with the author, whom he loved, and to whose labours he was indebted for the privilege of being useful. With every feeling of respect and affection, he then presented Mr. James with several translations of his works which had been completed.

Mr. JAMES replied briefly—he was almost overcome by his feelings, and could not find for them full expression.

All present were deeply affected, and on the suggestion of Mr. Binney, minister, the Chairman requested Dr. Leifchild to engage in prayer.

Business was then resumed, but being of no peculiar importance, need not be further particularised.

CHURCH-RATES AT WORCESTER.—Mr. Thomas Waters, a professional gentleman of Worcester, standing high in the estimation of his fellow-citizens, and holding the office of clerk of the peace, has always been a staunch opponent of church-rates, and, in fact, has never paid any up to the present time. His determination to resist them was so well known that they had generally been paid for him by some unknown hand. The principal churchwarden in one of the parishes in which he is rated, who holds all Dissenters in a most thorough hatred, determined this year, however, to take the bull by the horns; and, a few weeks ago, Mr. Waters was summoned before the city magistrates for the non-payment of the last rate. Mr. W. stated that he had several objections to the validity of the rate, the first of which was that the notice calling the vestry meeting had not been placed on the doors of the Dissenting chapels. The churchwarden admitted that such was the fact, and, as he did not consider Dissenting places of worship to be chapels recognised by law, he never should place notices upon them. The magistrates, on ascertaining that it was Mr. Waters' real intention to resist the rate, declared their jurisdiction at an end, and refused to enforce the rate. Since then Mr. Waters has received a citation from the Ecclesiastical Court, and, neglecting to appear to it, he is to be proceeded against as contumacious. These proceedings have caused a good deal of attention, and a few days ago a notice was served upon the churchwarden, that, if the proceedings failed, either through his neglect or that of his officials, the parties signing it would resist the payment of the expenses out of the rates to the uttermost. To the document were attached the names of the mayor of the city, two other magistrates, and several more influential ratepayers of the parish. The churchwarden exhibited this notice in his window for several days, and it attracted, of course, a great number of readers. The clergyman of the parish, a kind man and a lover of peace, has made two or three visits to Mr. Waters, with a view of inducing him to yield, but of course that gentleman would not listen to such a proposal for a minute. There can be no doubt, if the churchwarden does not withdraw proceedings—and there seems great probability of his being compelled to do so—that he will be defeated, and there will then be a terrible rupture in the parish.—*Correspondent.*

SEIZURE FOR NON-PAYMENT OF CHURCH-RATES.—On Tuesday, upwards of one thousand two hundred ounces of silver plate (which had been seized for the non-payment of church-rates) were sold by public auction. The rate, it appears, had for some time past become obnoxious to the inhabitants of Hackney and Shoreditch, and they at length, almost *en masse*, determined to resist it. The non-content was distrained upon, and their plate, amounting in the aggregate to the above, was seized. The articles were bought in chiefly by the owners.—*Sun.*

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AT WITHAM.—We have to record another example of the mild and Christian spirit of a State-church. Last year a distress warrant was obtained of Fisher Unwin Patteson, Esq., by Messrs. Crump and Shoebridge, the churchwardens of Witham, for distraining the goods of Mr. Piper for church-rates, the sum demanded amounting to seven shillings. Mr. Elijah Clarke, of Coggeshall, was the broker employed, who, with the assistance of the police, took from Mr. Piper's house the following articles:—viz., mahogany dining table, tea urn, copper teakettle, copper boiler, weighing machine, and seven weights. The articles, which cannot be replaced for five pounds, were sold by auction by Mr. Baker, of Hatfield, and up to this moment no balance or account of the transaction has been handed to Mr. Piper. (Five pounds' worth of goods for seven shillings! If this is Church of England honesty, none other than a certain gentleman in black could have instilled it!) This year another seizure has been made for the same amount of church-rates, and in this case the parties decamped with a sack of flour. The warrant was signed by another magistrate. The flour was privately sold, since which the following return of the transaction has been made:—

Flour sold for.....	£2 10 0
Warrant.....	0 7 0
Clerks' fees.....	0 10 0
Levy.....	0 3 0
Removing.....	0 1 6
Appraisalment.....	0 1 6
Possession.....	0 15 0—1 18 0
	0 12 0

The balance (12s.) has been handed to Mr. Piper. The inhabitants of Witham were so opposed to the outrage committed against one of their most respected townsmen, that no auctioneer could be found who would offer the flour for sale, the broker was sent for from a neighbouring town, and no baker could be found in Witham who would purchase flour possessed by such means, although it was offered at a reduction of 7s. 6d. below the wholesale market price!—*From a Correspondent.* [A number of the Nonconformists of Witham, who admire the judicious and steady manner in which Mr. D. H. Piper, of this town, has endeavoured to inculcate and diffuse the voluntary principle, have presented that gentleman with a large and beautiful edition of the Bible, on the inside of the cover of which, printed in gold letters, is the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. D. H. Piper, by the young men of Witham, as a token of esteem for the consistency with which he has carried out the principles of Nonconformity. May, 1847."]

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES.—DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—On Saturday, May 1st, two functionaries of the State waited upon Mr. J. Gutteridge, of Dunstable, and demanded a rate of 5s. 14d. for the support of the Gospel as preached in the parish church of Kensworth, Herts. From common-sense as well as Scriptural reasons, payment was refused, and the beloved agents and fellow-labourers of the Church, in the Christian vineyard, did then and there seize by force, in the name of the Church, 3 bushels of split-beans, value 15s.; 2 bushels of barley, value 13s.; 2 five-bushel sacks, value 2s. These articles were taken and removed to the Saracen's-head, where they remained until Wednesday, the 5th of May, when they were converted into money for the sacred and holy treasury, to enable the Church

to promulgate that Gospel which says, "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal," and which publishes "Peace on earth, good-will towards men."—*From a Correspondent.*

A SPECIMEN OF AN HONEST PARSON.—Some time since, a short conversation on the compulsory support of religion transpired between the Rev. Mr. Jackson, clergyman of Bow Brickhill, Bucks, and Mr. Batchelor, student of Newport Pagnell College. The reverend gentleman pledged himself to become a Dissenter if Mr. Batchelor could substantiate the points he then assumed. On Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., Mr. Batchelor delivered a lecture, in which he discussed the great points of the Anti-state-church controversy. An invitation to attend was previously addressed to Mr. Jackson, which it appears he thought best to decline, as he did not show himself during the lecture. It occupied upwards of two hours and a half, was attentively listened to throughout, and carried the conviction to every one present, that the great principle contained in the concluding sentence must yet be adopted by all the lovers of truth and mankind, that "Religion pertains alone to conscience and to God." At the conclusion of the lecture, a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to the lecturer, for the sound and able manner in which he discussed the question. Also two condemnatory resolutions were passed, without a dissentient voice, upon the clergyman, for departing from his original compact. The night will be long remembered in Bow Brickhill.—*From a Correspondent.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—As the subject of education is now so prominently before us, in consequence of the measure brought forward by the Government, perhaps you will allow me a brief space in your columns to point the attention of the Congregational body to the present condition of the Congregational school.

This Institution is the only one in the kingdom which affords, *gratuitously*, a five years' classical and commercial education to the sons of the more necessitous of our ministers. Extraordinary liberality has been displayed during the year in removing its encumbrances; and the balance-sheet for 1847 will show a debt of less than £25. The annual subscriptions, also, have reached a higher amount than in any previous year of its history, and we want only a gentle effort of the voluntary principle to render its position both safe and prosperous. Eight boys, instead of three, might now be admitted if this had been previously done; and fifty boys might be always maintained in the Institution. For this we require at least £200 per annum as an addition to our income.

The proposal suggested, then, is simply this:—It was stated, in the "Congregational Calendar" for 1846, that the number of Congregational churches in England was 1,927; on a very moderate estimate, therefore, there must be upwards of 2,000 in England and Wales. Cannot an effort be made, by at least one-fourth of this number—the more wealthy of the churches—to find one additional subscriber each, of a guinea per annum, to the school? Or cannot the churches themselves raise this amount, to render their ministers governors of the Institution, with the privilege of voting at each half-yearly election?

Try, brethren; only try. I have myself commenced the movement, and found the first new subscriber in my own congregation. Let my ministerial brethren make a simultaneous effort, and the thing will done. And should even a thousand be thus obtained it would reflect the greater credit on the denomination and on the working of the voluntary principle, whilst it would constrain the Committee to extend still further their borders, and increase the number of those who should be admitted to enjoy the benefits of the Institution.

Now, therefore, brethren, let us show what can be done. "Perform the doing of it; that as there is a readiness to will (shown in our petitions, and avowed confidence in the power of the voluntary principle) so there may be a performance also out of that which you have." I will only add, that it will afford me great pleasure to acknowledge any communications or contributions for this purpose.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE ROSE, Secretary.

20, Paradise-row, Rotherhithe, 22nd April.

AMERICAN EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE AND SLAVERY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—You will oblige me by the insertion of the following, as the deliverance of the American Branch of the Evangelical Alliance on the question of slavery.

May 10th, 1847.

"Inasmuch as the peculiar circumstances of this country seem to demand an expression of sentiment on the subject of slavery, this Alliance declares that a discrimination is to be made between those who hold slaves not by their own fault, or for the sake of their own advantage, but from motives entirely benevolent, and those who may hold their fellow-creatures in bondage for the sake of gain; and that the former are to be regarded as entitled to fellowship, while the latter cannot be received as members of this Alliance."

We understand that Mr. F. W. Wheeler, minister, of St. Andrew's, Jamaica, one of the missionaries of the London Missionary Society, has obtained the premium of £10, offered by Mr. J. Cassell, of London, for the best essay on "The Connection of the Temperance Movement with the Maintenance and Spread of Christianity." It is to appear forthwith in the *Tecotal Essayist*.

MARRIAGE OF MR. BRIGHT, M.P.—Notice of the marriage of the honourable M.P. for Durham, to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Leatham, of Heath, has been given to the superintendent registrar of the Wakefield district.—*Carlisle Journal.*

We learn that Lord John Russell has put himself in communication with the Catholic bishops, with a view to extend the benefits of state provision to the children of the poor of their communion.—*Bristol Mercury.*

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF CORK.—Father Mathew is likely to be the new Bishop of Cork, in the room of the late Dr. Murphy.

THE GOVERNMENT EDUCATION SCHEME.—MEETINGS AT LEEDS.

A meeting of Nonconformist delegates from various parts of Yorkshire (says the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday) was held in this town, on Monday last, to consider the present position of the body in consequence of the sanction given by the House of Commons to the Government measure of education, and the steps necessary to be pursued to protect the rights of Dissenters in future. There were present considerably more than a hundred gentlemen, from Leeds, Sheffield, Hull, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Dewsbury, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Knaresborough, Otley, Penistone, Scarborough, Heckmondwike, Gomersal, Pudsey, Rawden, Idle, Farsley, Ossett, Horbury, Brighouse, Sowerby-bridge, Thornton, &c., &c. Probably every individual had been a supporter of the Whigs during his whole life, and many had been among their most zealous and active friends. But the feeling displayed by the entire meeting was one of the strongest indignation, and we may say of complete alienation from the Ministry which had treated them with so much contempt and injustice. The list of delegates in another column (says the *Mercury*) will show to all who are acquainted with the Liberals of Yorkshire the weight that attaches to the meeting. The chair was taken by Dr. Hamilton, and the deliberations of the delegates lasted for nearly five hours.

It will be seen that the meeting entered its strong and solemn protest against the recent measure, declaring it to be unjust, and in opposition to the almost unanimous wishes and prayers of Dissenters. They resolved still "to pursue a course of determined and persevering exertion for the entire withdrawal of the measure itself, and to obtain the abrogation of the Committee of the Privy Council for Education." They showed the depth of their conscientious objections by a pledge worthy of their character and cause, expressed in the following terms:—

That, acting under the influence of these sacred obligations which they hold as Nonconformists, they bind themselves never to touch a farthing of public money for their schools, and earnestly urge on all Nonconformist communities to bind themselves by a similar engagement.

The question of the separation of Church and State was referred to with evidences of strong feeling and conviction; and the meeting declared it to be the duty of Nonconformists to diffuse their principles on this subject by every constitutional means. A large proportion of the gentlemen present determined to join the British Anti-state-church Association;—not that they now for the first time embrace those principles, but that the late measure has shown them the increasing danger and injustice to themselves of the Establishment system, and has made the question of immediate practical interest.

[The resolutions adopted by the meeting were published in our number of Friday last.]

PUBLIC MEETING.

A public meeting was held in East-parade (Independent) chapel, Leeds, on Monday evening, to receive the report of the deputation appointed by the Central West Riding Committee, to attend the Conference of Delegates, held in Crosby-hall, on the 13th ult.; and to hear addresses relative to the recent debates in the House of Commons on the Education Grant, and the present position and future policy of the opponents of State interference in the education of the people. Dr. Hamilton presided. Many of the West Riding delegates who had attended the morning meeting were present. The proceedings throughout were very animated and perfectly unanimous.

The CHAIRMAN spoke with much spirit and effect. Speaking of the late defeat of Dissenters on the Education Scheme of Government, he said:—

We want to show our adversaries, or in gentler phrase, our opponents, how we can bear defeat; we assume an erect but a dignified attitude [hear, hear]. At least we will die with harness on our backs [cheers]. We are not shaken in our convictions—we do not despair of our principles—we are borne down by numbers, but not by argument or by proof [hear, hear]. There has been much convenient adjustment of the question. Votes, pledged votes, have not been spared; reason has scarcely been allowed a hearing [hear, hear]. In fact, we are an unrepresented and a misrepresented people [applause]. We have not our organs where our organs ought to be found. But we indulge no strain that is querulous or that is irritable. We are cast down, but we are not destroyed [applause]. Our convictions and our principles are alike inextinguishable. We may fall like Antaeus to the earth, but like Antaeus we fall to rebound. There is elasticity in civil and religious liberty—you may oppress, but you cannot quench it. It takes hold of the nature and of the immutable essence of the soul. A few years since only was Voluntarism mentioned, and then to bear the banter and the sneer; and now, forsooth, though it must be bantered and sneered at, no one dares argue against it. The hon. members in their speeches were against the voluntary principle, but their scheme and their measure, they aver, is not to supersede the voluntary principle, but to foster and encourage it [laughter].

Relative to the measure itself, he remarked:—

I am reminded, that there is a rivalry in all professions, and her Majesty's Ministers must set up a scholastic establishment of their own. I believe it is a preparatory school and also a finishing school—[laughter]—and there are many details, for they not only teach botany by gardening, but cleanliness by wash-houses [laughter and applause]. It is very extraordinary, "this tale of a tub!" [Renewed applause and laughter]. How far will they descend with their educational details? However, there is this one consolation. Generally I am very much provoked that at the bottom of a school bill are marked "extras," and generally among the extras is washing [hear, hear]. But washing in the establishment of her Majesty's Ministers is not only not an extra, but washing is included, and it is even taught. What a Liberal scale of the Ministerial establishment! [laughter]. I am for education that shall raise the people, and give man after man a start in the career of proficiency and of progress.

Referring to the coming general election, he gave some excellent advice:—

Can the descendants of the Separatists and Nonconform-

ists be surprised to find themselves in a minority? Let them say of us, "Count them, count them" [hear, hear]. Let them say of us that we are the smallest numerical, arithmetical, relic. What then? We go openly—we are not dishonoured [applause]. Just so I shall maintain that in all this transaction—in all our meetings with Ministers, and all our assemblies of the people—we did nothing to soil ourselves—nothing to shame our principles—nothing to shame our fathers—and nothing of which our children shall be ashamed [applause]. But take the alternative that the good man and true is not to be found. Why, then, I am not to be found [cheers]. There is a strength in my absence—there is a strength in my silence—there is a strength in my standing by [hear, hear]. You say, "Why, then, if you will not vote for the best man, though none be good and true, you neutralise yourself." Granted, I am neutralised, but I am not compromised [loud applause]. But if I give my vote to any man who is not true and good, but only the best of the bad, why, then, gentlemen, I am compromised and neutralised too [loud applause]. I do, therefore, conjure you, my fellow-citizens, and my fellow-Christians—you who have votes, and I wish many more of you had them [applause]—that at the next election we do there show ourselves on the right side, or that we show ourselves on no side at all! [loud cheers].

The first resolution, protesting against the late decision of the House of Commons, was moved by Mr. PRIDIE, Independent minister, of Halifax, seconded by Dr. MUNRO, of Silcoate, and carried unanimously.

Professor STOWELL, of Rotherham College, moved the second resolution:—

That, in the discussion which preceded the vote of money for this measure, no adequate expression was given to the grounds on which the friends of Free Education object to it, the success of the voluntary principle having been almost altogether overlooked; the partial and oppressive bearing of the scheme not having been disproved; and, above all, the great principle of Evangelical Dissenters having, except by one or two honourable members, been utterly disregarded, viz., that it is not compatible with the office of civil government to interfere with the religious training of the people [applause].

Mr. EDWARD BAINES, jun., rose to second the resolution, and was received with much applause. After refuting the arguments used by Ministers and members of the House of Commons in defence of the Minutes of Council, and advancing proofs of the efficacy of the voluntary principle, he referred to the future:—

And now the practical question that must press upon us is: Shall we consider that this question is ultimately decided? The answer is quite ready; for my own part, I am determined, so far as I am concerned, this question is not decided [great applause]. I am glad you have made that expression of your opinion, because I trust it shows you are resolved, as I am, that if we are driven back, as the Duke of Wellington once was, almost from the frontiers of France right over the Peninsula back to the lines of Torres Vedras—upon those lines of Torres Vedras we will make our stand, and from them we will make our defence, and will not despair of yet accomplishing a complete victory [loud applause]. But one thing is absolutely essential, and that is a thing which you must determine for yourselves. It is one you must determine, as it will be moved in a subsequent resolution. You must determine you will not receive any Government money for your own schools [hear, hear]. If it should be found that any number of our communities are receiving Government money, then others will follow the example [hear, hear]. Then the great argument of conscientious objection will be taken out of our hands, and the hands of those who have publicly to advocate this cause. You will weaken our hands infinitely more than they are weakened by any Parliamentary majority that has been or can be obtained. I trust the Nonconformists of Leeds, of Yorkshire, and of England, know their principles too well to receive this money [hear, hear]. They know they can't receive this money without violating a principle which lies at the very foundation of their Nonconformity. If they receive Government money for teaching in the schools, which is or ought to be religious, they might just as well receive it for the support of ministers and chapels, and make the whole of the teachers of religion pensioners and hangers-on of the Government [hear, hear]. I trust the Nonconformists of England will see that clearly, and though it will be said to them tauntingly and temptingly, "If you don't receive this money, you will sacrifice these schools," I am prepared to say for one, I will sacrifice the schools rather than I will sacrifice my principles [loud applause]. But I am not altogether without hope that we may not be under the necessity of sacrificing our schools [hear]. It very generally happens where great injustice is committed, that there is often error equal to the injustice. I believe in this measure there are blunders as great as its injustice and its cruelty [hear]. I believe it will be found not practicable to work it in the manner in which it is expected by the people of England, or the manner in which it is even expected by its authors. It will be utterly impossible that they can fulfil those temptations which are held out, especially to the working classes, to support this measure. It is not possible for them to find places, I believe, for one-fourteenth part of those who may excel in schools, or for those whom they train up in the expectation that they will obtain situations in the public service. It will, therefore, most grossly disappoint the people of England. Those of the working classes and those of the clergy who expect they will be able to perform their promises, will find themselves utterly disappointed. Their promises can't be fulfilled, and therefore the evil will not to us be so great as was intended, or as it seemed to be at the first examination [hear, hear]. From the determination which I believe exists among the Dissenters to cling to their schools, to improve them to the utmost, and to stretch their liberality also to the utmost in their support, I derive encouragement, and I believe we shall find that in the maintenance of those principles we shall have the support both of the people and of a higher power, and that we shall at last bring both our principles and our cause to a triumphant issue [loud applause].

Mr. YEWDALE (Wesleyan Association) then proposed the following resolution:—

That, since the opposition offered to the present Government scheme has been the result of solemn conscientious conviction, this meeting, whilst protesting against the recent vote of the House of Commons in its favour, express their determination to use all constitutional means for the prevention of renewed grants, and resolve to pursue a course of determined and persevering exertion for the entire withdrawal of the measure itself, and to obtain the abrogation of the Committee of the Privy Council for Education.

[Hear, hear]. He viewed the measure of Government as only the first of a series of attacks upon the principles of Nonconformists. The time had now come when they must firmly maintain their principles. He was resolved to have nothing to do with any man that would not go the whole length [applause]. It would be said Lord Morpeth was a nobleman of excellent qualities. He admitted that, but it was not the point [hear, hear]. My Lord Morpeth had abused the confidence the Nonconformists placed in him; he had touched a tender and vital point, and could not trust him any more [great cheering].

Mr. HASTIE briefly seconded the resolution.

The next resolution was moved by Mr. SCALES, Independent minister, of Leeds, and seconded by Mr. JOSEPH TOWN, Baptist.

Mr. PLINT moved the next resolution:—

That this meeting, seeing that the Education to be given according to the Minutes of Council is avowedly and strictly religious, whilst they are conscious that their opposition springs from no narrow or sectarian feeling, emphatically renew the avowal of their great principle, that all interference of Civil Government with religion is inconsistent with its spirituality, and with the rights of conscience; and they further avow the principle that the education of the people does not fall within the province of the Civil Government, and is incompatible with its proper functions; they, therefore, recommend that the broad principles be everywhere adopted, as constituting sound and safe grounds of opposition to the obnoxious measure against which they are now protesting.

He followed it up with an able speech against the interference of Government, either in the religious or secular education of the people.

CHARLES WATSON, Esq., (Wesleyan), seconded the resolution, and confessed that his own views and principles had been confirmed. He felt that we, as a nation, were greatly indebted to the Nonconformist body for the part they had taken on this great and important question.

Mr. PLINT (in the absence of Mr. R. W. Campbell, of Stockton-on-Tees) proposed the sixth resolution, which read as follows:—

That this meeting, deeply impressed with the obligation that rests on them, in common with the whole community, to promote, as far as in them lies, the work of free education, determine for themselves, and earnestly press upon the several bodies which they represent, the importance and duty of sustaining, to the utmost of their ability, the Sunday and day-schools existing among them—of extending the benefits of education to vicinities in which there is a deficiency, and of seeking the continued improvement of the system of education; and they further suggest it as worthy of consideration, whether an educational board may not be advantageously organized expressly for this county, together with a normal school for the training of teachers.

Dr. GORDON, of Hull, seconded the resolution.

Mr. W. HUDSWELL, Independent minister, proposed the seventh and last resolution:—

That the experience of Nonconformists for ages past, and especially for the last few years, is calculated to teach the importance of more widely and earnestly enforcing their peculiar principles, especially in reference to the separation of Church and State; and the meeting strongly recommends that the attempt to enforce them should be conducted, as on the ground of civil and religious liberty, so especially also on that of evangelical principle; and that to this end organizations should be formed, whether on a distinct basis, or in connexion with existing institutions, for the purpose of diffusing sound opinions by public meetings, lectures, and the press; and that all these movements be conducted in the spirit of devotion and in the temper of the Gospel.

This resolution was received with very hearty and repeated cheers. Mr. Hudswell said he was exceedingly rejoiced to hear the response. He thought the time had come when they must go as a combined body for the separation of Church and State [applause]. He was prepared, and he was satisfied that the town and the Riding would be prepared, not to move at all at the election for any man who would not fairly, fully, and clearly represent the principles of Dissenters in the House of Commons [cheers].

Mr. THOMAS MORGAN seconded the resolution, which was adopted by acclamation. The proceedings then terminated.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The annual distribution of prizes in the faculty of medicine took place on Saturday week. Lord Brougham presided; and there was a very crowded attendance of the friends of the college and of the pupils. Mr. Lister, the dean of the faculty, read a report, stating that 290 students had attended the medical classes during this session. Last year the number was 292. Two assistant-physicians and an assistant-surgeon had been appointed to the hospital. The completion of the hospital would not only greatly extend its usefulness to the public, but afford the means of raising it to the highest degree of efficiency as a practical school of medical instruction in alliance with the college. Among the successful competitors, we find the following:—Class of medicine; 1st silver medal and 2nd certificate, H. Briggs, Halifax. —Anatomy and Physiology; 2nd silver medal and 3rd certificate, D. Badcock, Sheffield. —Midwifery; 2nd silver medal and 3rd certificate, H. Briggs. After the distribution, Lord Brougham briefly addressed the students, in the course of which he alluded to the subject of education, and said:—

He had, however, recently heard things stated which made him doubt whether they were living in 1847 [laughter]. He would not give any opinion on the controversy which had lately spread over the country and reached the town. He would not say whether his old and excellent friends, Mr. Baines and Dr. Hamilton, were right, or Lord Lansdowne, who was one of his oldest friends; but he had seen such things mooted by certain sects, one trying to exclude or include the other [laughter]—that, as he had mentioned in another place, he was obliged to look one day into the almanack to see whether he really was living in 1847, for he thought he was living in 1837 [loud laughter]. It turned out by the almanack—from which in such matters there was no appeal [laughter]—that he was living in the year 1847, and he hoped therefore that the diffusion of knowledge among the people would end in a more complete and effectual common education, and that the same progress would be made in the inferior branches as was now made in the higher and more exalted branches of learning [cheers]. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to his Lordship.

The Council of the College, at their session on the same day, approved of a scheme for the application of the dividends of the fund produced by the £2,000, bequeathed to the college by the late Mr. Holloway, banker, of Hereford. In compliance with the wish expressed by the testator, they determined that the dividends should be appropriated to paying the school fees of boys in the school distinguished for their merit who need pecuniary assistance in their education: the head master from time to time to report to the council the names and circumstances of pupils deserving such an exhibition. The Council had the satisfaction of conferring the first exhibition on Thomas Hood, the son of the late Mr. Thomas Hood, the poet. At the same session, the council appointed Mr. Bennett Woodcroft, of Manchester, to the newly instituted Professorship of Descriptive Machinery.

Considerable quantities of bullion reached the Bank of England, and private houses, in the course of Friday. The several steamers from Boulogne to Folkestone have each brought over large sums in gold.—*Times*.

Friday night's *Gazette* notifies the appointment of Lord Belhaven as High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

SUNDERLAND.—EDUCATIONAL TEA MEETING.

On Wednesday last, the friends of voluntary education in Sunderland held a public tea-meeting in the Polytechnic-hall, Athenæum. The special object of the meeting was to endeavour to extend voluntary education in the town. Owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather, the company was not so large as it would otherwise have been. About 200 sat down to tea, and a great number of the friends of voluntarism, who were unable to attend at an earlier hour, were present at the meeting afterwards. After the removal of the trays, Mr. John Hills was called to the chair, who introduced the business of the evening in a very appropriate and interesting speech. He stated, that whatever difference of opinion might exist as to the best means of extending education, whether by the interference of the State, or the unfettered power of voluntarism, all were agreed on the importance of the universal diffusion of the blessings of education. The future course of Dissenters, under the circumstances which had so recently transpired, appeared to be clearly marked out. Since they cannot without grossly outraging their religious principles, and violating their consciences, accept of the money voted by the Legislature for the carrying out of the Minutes of Council, they had still left open before them the course which they had hitherto so laudably pursued, viz., the extension of voluntary education; and although, by the recent Minutes of Council, their difficulties were materially multiplied, yet he had no doubt that, if they remained firm to their principles, and rallied round the banner of liberty, at the same time endeavouring to the utmost of their ability to diffuse the blessings of a sound and enlightened education, the principles of truth and justice (though now apparently trodden under foot of men) would ultimately triumph over every species of opposition which may be brought against them.

Mr. S. S. HODGSON (one of the secretaries in the late educational movement) entered at some length into the subject of establishing additional Dissenting schools in the borough, stating that, although there was a considerable lack of education in the town, yet that lack was not so fearfully extensive as many had supposed—that from statistics which had been carefully gathered up, they found that in the three parishes, Sunderland, and the Wearmouths, there were not less than one in nine of the entire population receiving daily instruction, whilst school accommodation existed for one in six! The great bulk of the deficiency, he said, was to be found in the eastern extremity of the town, where the greatest portion of poverty and destitution existed, and where they contemplated the immediate establishment of a Dissenting day-school. He next adverted to the charge of inefficiency, which, during the late movement, had been so extensively preferred against the voluntary principle. The voluntary principle a failure! "Where, or in what," he would inquire, "had it failed?" In diffusing the benignant blessings of the Gospel of peace? Nay, voluntarism had invariably led the way in every movement characterised by Christian philanthropy and beneficence. In education the voluntary principle had, up to this time, been almost the nation's only resource, and nobly had it accomplished its work. Much had been done by its power to elevate the masses of the people, but it had not fully accomplished its task before being rudely assailed by the State, and placed under the ban, as incompetent to meet the wants of the community. It had not failed even in education, but was rapidly advancing with giant strides. Voluntarism a failure! Has it failed in the dissemination of religious truth—in the erection of sanctuaries—in the maintenance of Divine ordinances? Look at Sunderland. What has the power of the voluntary principle done here? By whom have the religious wants of the people been most amply contemplated and provided for? By the voluntary or the compulsionist? Who have erected those numerous sanctuaries which meet us at almost every turn—the Dissenter or the Churchman? Let us look back a little. Since 1821 (a quarter of a century ago) there have been reared in the town of Sunderland, in connection with the Establishment, one place of worship, capable of holding 1,200 persons; in connection with Voluntarism, nineteen places of worship, capable of holding 14,350 persons! And this is the principle which has so woefully failed! What is the extent of Church and Chapel accommodation at present existing in the town? There are, in connection with the Establishment, seven places of worship, holding about 9,800 persons; in connection with the Dissenters, thirty-three places of worship, holding about 22,000! Where, then, is the failure? Not, surely, in Voluntarism, but in the dominant Church—the Church established by law. He concluded by urging the immediate establishment of a school in the destitute locality to which he had previously referred.

Mr. MUNN (Secession Minister) next addressed the meeting, and referred to the religious clauses of the Ministerial scheme of education as being most decidedly objectionable. He doubted not the Dissenters were sufficiently able to support one or more additional schools in the town, and was happy that they had made a move in that direction, towards which he would gladly contribute his influence.

Mr. LISTER, of Rotherham, in an able and interesting speech, deprecated the interference of Government in the matter of education, and expressed an apprehension that they would not stop there, but would stealthily and insidiously seek to extend their supervision over public lecturers, the press, and even the pulpit itself; all of which, he contended, were powerful instruments in training the minds of the people.

Mr. T. POTTS, in an animated speech, met several arguments which had been advanced by the promoters of the Government plan of Education, and in a somewhat humorous way pointed out the internal difficulties which the Minutes of Council involved, especially with regard to the pupil teacher and stipendiary monitor, whom the parochial clergymen had power to remove from beneath their parents' roof, and place "in an approved household," whilst the only pecuniary provision made by the Minutes for these classes of officers

CHURCH-RATES AT WORCESTER.—Mr. Thomas Waters, a professional gentleman of Worcester, standing high in the estimation of his fellow-citizens, and holding the office of clerk of the peace, has always been a staunch opponent of church-rates, and, in fact, has never paid any up to the present time. His determination to resist them was so well known that they had generally been paid for him by some unknown hand. The principal churchwarden in one of the parishes in which he is rated, who holds all Dissenters in a most thorough hatred, determined this year, however, to take the bull by the horns; and, a few weeks ago, Mr. Waters was summoned before the city magistrates for the non-payment of the last rate. Mr. W. stated that he had several objections to the validity of the rate, the first of which was that the notice calling the vestry meeting had not been placed on the doors of the Dissenting chapels. The churchwarden admitted that such was the fact, and, as he did not consider Dissenting places of worship to be chapels recognised by law, he never should place notices upon them. The magistrates, on ascertaining that it was Mr. Waters's real intention to resist the rate, declared their jurisdiction at an end, and refused to enforce the rate. Since then Mr. Waters has received a citation from the Ecclesiastical Court, and, neglecting to appear to it, he is to be proceeded against as contumacious. These proceedings have caused a good deal of attention, and a few days ago a notice was served upon the churchwarden, that, if the proceedings failed, either through his neglect or that of his officials, the parties signing it would resist the payment of the expenses out of the rates to the uttermost. To the document were attached the names of the mayor of the city, two other magistrates, and several more influential ratepayers of the parish. The churchwarden exhibited this notice in his window for several days, and it attracted, of course, a great number of readers. The clergyman of the parish, a kind man and a lover of peace, has made two or three visits to Mr. Waters, with a view of inducing him to yield, but of course that gentleman would not listen to such a proposal for a minute. There can be no doubt, if the churchwarden does not withdraw proceedings—and there seems great probability of his being compelled to do so—that he will be defeated, and there will then be a terrible rupture in the parish.—*Correspondent.*

SEIZURE FOR NON-PAYMENT OF CHURCH-RATES.—On Tuesday, upwards of one thousand two hundred ounces of silver plate (which had been seized for the non-payment of church-rates) were sold by public auction. The rate, it appears, had for some time past become obnoxious to the inhabitants of Hackney and Shoreditch, and they at length, almost *en masse*, determined to resist it. The non-content was distrained upon, and their plate, amounting in the aggregate to the above, was seized. The articles were bought in chiefly by the owners.—*Sun.*

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AT WITHAM.—We have to record another example of the mild and Christian spirit of a State-church. Last year a distress warrant was obtained of Fisher Unwin Patteson, Esq., by Messrs. Crump and Shoebridge, the churchwardens of Witham, for distraining the goods of Mr. Piper for church-rates, the sum demanded amounting to seven shillings. Mr. Elijah Clarke, of Coggeshall, was the broker employed, who, with the assistance of the police, took from Mr. Piper's house the following articles:—viz., mahogany dining table, tea urn, copper teakettle, copper boiler, weighing machine, and seven weights. The articles, which cannot be replaced for five pounds, were sold by auction by Mr. Baker, of Hatfield, and up to this moment no balance or account of the transaction has been handed to Mr. Piper. (Five pounds' worth of goods for seven shillings! If this is Church of England honesty, none other than a certain gentleman in black could have instilled it!) This year another seizure has been made for the same amount of church-rates, and in this case the parties decamped with a sack of flour. The warrant was signed by another magistrate. The flour was privately sold, since which the following return of the transaction has been made:—

Flour sold for.....	£2 10 0
Warrant.....	0 7 0
Clerks' fees.....	0 10 0
Levy.....	0 3 0
Removing.....	0 1 6
Appraisement.....	0 1 6
Possession.....	0 15 0—1 18 0
	0 12 0

The balance (12s.) has been handed to Mr. Piper. The inhabitants of Witham were so opposed to the outrage committed against one of their most respected townsmen, that no auctioneer could be found who would offer the flour for sale, the broker was sent for from a neighbouring town, and no baker could be found in Witham who would purchase flour possessed by such means, although it was offered at a reduction of 7s. 6d. below the wholesale market price!—*From a Correspondent.* [A number of the Nonconformists of Witham, who admire the judicious and steady manner in which Mr. D. H. Piper, of this town, has endeavoured to inculcate and diffuse the voluntary principle, have presented that gentleman with a large and beautiful edition of the Bible, on the inside of the cover of which, printed in gold letters, is the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. D. H. Piper, by the young men of Witham, as a token of esteem for the consistency with which he has carried out the principles of Nonconformity. May, 1847."]

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES.—DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—On Saturday, May 1st, two functionaries of the State waited upon Mr. J. Gutteridge, of Dunstable, and demanded a rate of 5s. 14d. for the support of the Gospel as preached in the parish church of Kensworth, Herts. From common-sense as well as Scriptural reasons, payment was refused, and the beloved *agents and fellow-labourers* of the Church, in the Christian vineyard, did then and there seize by force, in the name of the Church, 3 bushels of split-beans, value 15s.; 2 bushels of barley, value 13s.; 2 five-bushel sacks, value 2s. These articles were taken and removed to the Saracen's-head, where they remained until Wednesday, the 5th of May, when they were converted into money for the sacred and holy treasury, to enable the Church

to promulgate that Gospel which says, "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal," and which publishes "Peace on earth, good-will towards men."—*From a Correspondent.*

A SPECIMEN OF AN HONEST PARSON.—Some time since, a short conversation on the compulsory support of religion transpired between the Rev. Mr. Jackson, clergyman of Bow Brickhill, Bucks, and Mr. Batchelor, student of Newport Pagnell College. The reverend gentleman pledged himself to become a Dissenter if Mr. Batchelor could substantiate the points he then assumed. On Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., Mr. Batchelor delivered a lecture, in which he discussed the great points of the Anti-state-church controversy. An invitation to attend was previously addressed to Mr. Jackson, which it appears he thought best to decline, as he did not show himself during the lecture. It occupied upwards of two hours and a half, was attentively listened to throughout, and carried the conviction to every one present, that the great principle contained in the concluding sentence must yet be adopted by all the lovers of truth and mankind, that "Religion pertains alone to conscience and to God." At the conclusion of the lecture, a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to the lecturer, for the sound and able manner in which he discussed the question. Also two condemnatory resolutions were passed, without a dissentient voice, upon the clergyman, for departing from his original compact. The night will be long remembered in Bow Brickhill.—*From a Correspondent.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—As the subject of education is now so prominently before us, in consequence of the measure brought forward by the Government, perhaps you will allow me a brief space in your columns to point the attention of the Congregational body to the present condition of the Congregational school.

This Institution is the only one in the kingdom which affords, *gratuitously*, a five years' classical and commercial education to the sons of the more necessitous of our ministers. Extraordinary liberality has been displayed during the year in removing its encumbrances; and the balance-sheet for 1847 will show a debt of less than £25. The annual subscriptions, also, have reached a higher amount than in any previous year of its history, and we want only a gentle effort of the voluntary principle to render its position both safe and prosperous. Eight boys, instead of three, might now be admitted if this had been previously done; and fifty boys might be always maintained in the Institution. For this we require at least £200 per annum as an addition to our income.

The proposal suggested, then, is simply this:—It was stated, in the "Congregational Calendar" for 1846, that the number of Congregational churches in England was 1,927; on a very moderate estimate, therefore, there must be upwards of 2,000 in England and Wales. Cannot an effort be made, by at least *one-fourth* of this number—the more wealthy of the churches—to find *one additional* subscriber each, of a guinea per annum, to the school? Or cannot the churches themselves raise this amount, to render their ministers governors of the Institution, with the privilege of voting at each half-yearly election?

Try, brethren; only try. I have myself commenced the movement, and found the first new subscriber in my own congregation. Let my ministerial brethren make a simultaneous effort, and the thing will done. And should even a thousand be thus obtained it would reflect the greater credit on the denomination and on the working of the voluntary principle, whilst it would constrain the Committee to extend still further their borders, and increase the number of those who should be admitted to enjoy the benefits of the Institution.

Now, therefore, brethren, let us show what can be done. "Perform the doing of it; that as there is a readiness to will (shown in our petitions, and avowed confidence in the power of the voluntary principle) so there may be a performance also out of that which you have." I will only add, that it will afford me great pleasure to acknowledge any communications or contributions for this purpose.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE ROSE, Secretary.

20, Paradise-row, Rotherhithe, 22nd April.

AMERICAN EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE AND SLAVERY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—You will oblige me by the insertion of the following, as the deliverance of the American Branch of the Evangelical Alliance on the question of slavery.

Yours truly,

R. SMITH.

May 10th, 1847.

"Inasmuch as the peculiar circumstances of this country seem to demand an expression of sentiment on the subject of slavery, this Alliance declares that a discrimination is to be made between those who hold slaves not by their own fault, or for the sake of their own advantage, but from motives entirely benevolent, and those who may hold their fellow-creatures in bondage for the sake of gain; and that the former are to be regarded as entitled to fellowship, while the latter cannot be received as members of this Alliance."

We understand that Mr. F. W. Wheeler, minister, of St. Andrew's, Jamaica, one of the missionaries of the London Missionary Society, has obtained the premium of £10, offered by Mr. J. Cassell, of London, for the best essay on "The Connection of the Temperance Movement with the Maintenance and Spread of Christianity." It is to appear forthwith in the *Teetotal Essayist*.

MARRIAGE OF MR. BRIGHT, M.P.—Notice of the marriage of the honourable M.P. for Durham, to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Leatham, of Heath, has been given to the superintendent registrar of the Wakefield district.—*Carlisle Journal.*

We learn that Lord John Russell has put himself in communication with the Catholic bishops, with a view to extend the benefits of state provision to the children of the poor of their communion.—*Bristol Mercury.*

NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF CORK.—Father Mathew is likely to be the new Bishop of Cork, in the room of the late Dr. Murphy.

THE GOVERNMENT EDUCATION SCHEME.—MEETINGS AT LEEDS.

A meeting of Nonconformist delegates from various parts of Yorkshire (says the *Leeds Mercury* of Saturday) was held in this town, on Monday last, to consider the present position of the body in consequence of the sanction given by the House of Commons to the Government measure of education, and the steps necessary to be pursued to protect the rights of Dissenters in future. There were present considerably more than a hundred gentlemen, from Leeds, Sheffield, Hull, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Dewsbury, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Knaresborough, Otley, Penistone, Scarborough, Heckmondwike, Gomersal, Pudsey, Rawden, Idle, Farsley, Ossett, Horbury, Brighouse, Sowerby-bridge, Thornton, &c., &c. Probably every individual had been a supporter of the Whigs during his whole life, and many had been among their most zealous and active friends. But the feeling displayed by the entire meeting was one of the strongest indignation, and we may say of complete alienation from the Ministry which had treated them with so much contempt and injustice. The list of delegates in another column (says the *Mercury*) will show to all who are acquainted with the Liberals of Yorkshire the weight that attaches to the meeting. The chair was taken by Dr. Hamilton, and the deliberations of the delegates lasted for nearly five hours.

It will be seen that the meeting entered its strong and solemn protest against the recent measure, declaring it to be unjust, and in opposition to the almost unanimous wishes and prayers of Dissenters. They resolved still "to pursue a course of determined and persevering exertion for the entire withdrawal of the measure itself, and to obtain the abrogation of the Committee of the Privy Council for Education." They showed the depth of their conscientious objections by a pledge worthy of their character and cause, expressed in the following terms:—

That, acting under the influence of these sacred obligations which they hold as Nonconformists, they bind themselves never to touch a farthing of public money for their schools, and earnestly urge on all Nonconformist communities to bind themselves by a similar engagement.

The question of the separation of Church and State was referred to with evidences of strong feeling and conviction; and the meeting declared it to be the duty of Nonconformists to diffuse their principles on this subject by every constitutional means. A large proportion of the gentlemen present determined to join the British Anti-state-church Association;—not that they now for the first time embrace those principles, but that the late measure has shown them the increasing danger and injustice to themselves of the Establishment system, and has made the question of immediate practical interest.

[The resolutions adopted by the meeting were published in our number of Friday last.]

PUBLIC MEETING.

A public meeting was held in East-parade (Independent) chapel, Leeds, on Monday evening, to receive the report of the deputation appointed by the Central West Riding Committee, to attend the Conference of Delegates, held in Crosby-hall, on the 13th ult.; and to hear addresses relative to the recent debates in the House of Commons on the Education Grant, and the present position and future policy of the opponents of State interference in the education of the people. Dr. Hamilton presided. Many of the West Riding delegates who had attended the morning meeting were present. The proceedings throughout were very animated and perfectly unanimous.

The CHAIRMAN spoke with much spirit and effect. Speaking of the late defeat of Dissenters on the Education Scheme of Government, he said:—

We want to show our adversaries, or in gentler phrase, our opponents, how we can bear defeat; we assume an erect but a dignified attitude [hear, hear]. At least we will die with harness on our backs [cheers]. We are not shaken in our convictions—we do not despair of our principles—we are borne down by numbers, but not by argument or by proof [hear, hear]. There has been much convenient adjustment of the question. Votes, pledged votes, have not been spared; reason has scarcely been allowed a hearing [hear, hear]. In fact, we are an unrepresented and a misrepresented people [applause]. We have not our organs where our organs ought to be found. But we indulge no strain that is querulous or that is irritable. We are cast down, but we are not destroyed [applause]. Our convictions and our principles are alike inextinguishable. We may fall like Antæus to the earth, but like Antæus we fall to rebound. There is elasticity in civil and religious liberty—you may oppress, but you cannot quench it. It takes hold of the nature and of the immutable essence of the soul. A few years since only was Voluntaryism mentioned, and then to bear the banter and the sneer; and now, forsooth, though it must be bantered and sneered at, no one dares argue against it. The hon. members in their speeches were against the voluntary principle, but their scheme and their measure, they aver, is not to supersede the voluntary principle, but to foster and encourage it [laughter].

Relative to the measure itself, he remarked:—

I am reminded, that there is a rivalry in all professions, and her Majesty's Ministers must set up a scholastic establishment of their own. I believe it is a preparatory school and also a finishing school—[laughter]—and there are many details, for they not only teach botany by gardening, but cleanliness by wash-houses [laughter and applause]. It is very extraordinary, "this tale of a tub!" [Renewed applause and laughter]. How far will they descend with their educational details? However, there is this one consolation. Generally I am very much provoked that at the bottom of a school bill are marked "extras," and generally among the extras is washing [hear, hear]. But washing in the establishment of her Majesty's Ministers is not only not an extra, but washing is included, and it is even taught. What a Liberal scale of the Ministerial establishment! [laughter]. I am for education that shall raise the people, and give man after man a start in the career of proficiency and of progress.

Referring to the coming general election, he gave some excellent advice:—

Can the descendants of the Separatists and Nonconform-

ists be surprised to find themselves in a minority? Let them say of us, "Count them, count them" [hear, hear]. Let them say of us that we are the smallest numerical, arithmetical, relief. What then? We go openly—we are [not dishonoured [applause]]. Just so I shall maintain that in all this transaction—in all our meetings with Ministers, and all our assemblies of the people—we did nothing to soil ourselves—nothing to shame our principles—nothing to shame our fathers—and nothing of which our children shall be ashamed [applause]. But take the alternative that the good man and true is not to be found. Why, then, I am not to be found [cheers]. There is a strength in my absence—there is a strength in my silence—there is a strength in my standing by [hear, hear]. You say, "Why, then, if you will not vote for the best man, though none be good and true, you neutralise yourself." Granted, I am neutralised, but I am not compromised [loud applause]. But if I give my vote to any man who is not true and good, but only the best of the bad, why, then, gentlemen, I am compromised and neutralised too [loud applause]. I do, therefore, conjure you, my fellow-citizens, and my fellow-Christians—you who have votes, and I wish many more of you had them [applause]—that at the next election we do there show ourselves on the right side, or that we show ourselves on no side at all! [loud cheers].

The first resolution, protesting against the late decision of the House of Commons, was moved by Mr. PRIDIE, Independent minister, of Halifax, seconded by Dr. MUNRO, of Silcoate, and carried unanimously.

Professor STOWELL, of Rotherham College, moved the second resolution:—

That, in the discussion which preceded the vote of money for this measure, no adequate expression was given to the grounds on which the friends of Free Education object to it, the success of the voluntary principle having been almost altogether overlooked; the partial and oppressive bearing of the scheme not having been disproved; and, above all, the great principle of Evangelical Dissenters having, except by one or two honourable members, been utterly disregarded, viz., that it is not compatible with the office of civil government to interfere with the religious training of the people [applause].

Mr. EDWARD BAINES, jun., rose to second the resolution, and was received with much applause. After refuting the arguments used by Ministers and members of the House of Commons in defence of the Minutes of Council, and advancing proofs of the efficacy of the voluntary principle, he referred to the future:—

And now the practical question that must press upon us is: Shall we consider that this question is ultimately decided? The answer is quite ready; for my own part, I am determined, so far as I am concerned, this question is not decided [great applause]. I am glad you have made that expression of your opinion, because I trust it shows you are resolved, as I am, that if we are driven back, as the Duke of Wellington once was, almost from the frontiers of France right over the Peninsula back to the lines of Torres Vedras—upon those lines of Torres Vedras we will make our stand, and from them we will make our defence, and will not despair of yet accomplishing a complete victory [loud applause]. But one thing is absolutely essential, and that is a thing which you must determine for yourselves. It is one you must determine, as it will be moved in a subsequent resolution. You must determine you will not receive any Government money for your own schools [hear, hear]. If it should be found that any number of our communities are receiving Government money, then others will follow the example [hear, hear]. Then the great argument of conscientious objection will be taken out of our hands, and the hands of those who have publicly to advocate this cause. You will weaken our hands infinitely more than they are weakened by any Parliamentary majority that has been or can be obtained. I trust the Nonconformists of Leeds, of Yorkshire, and of England, know their principles too well to receive this money [hear, hear]. They know they can't receive this money without violating a principle which lies at the very foundation of their Nonconformity. If they receive Government money for teaching in the schools, which is or ought to be religious, they might just as well receive it for the support of ministers and chapels, and make the whole of the teachers of religion pensioners and hangers-on of the Government [hear, hear]. I trust the Nonconformists of England will see that clearly, and though it will be said to them tauntingly and temptingly, "If you don't receive this money, you will sacrifice these schools," I am prepared to say for one, I will sacrifice the schools rather than I will sacrifice my principles [loud applause]. But I am not altogether without hope that we may not be under the necessity of sacrificing our schools [hear]. It very generally happens where great injustice is committed, that there is often error equal to the injustice. I believe in this measure there are blunders as great as its injustice and its cruelty [hear]. I believe it will be found not practicable to work it in the manner in which it is expected by the people of England, or the manner in which it is even expected by its authors. It will be utterly impossible that they can fulfil those temptations which are held out, especially to the working classes, to support this measure. It is not possible for them to find places, I believe, for one-fourteenth part of those who may excel in schools, or for those whom they train up in the expectation that they will obtain situations in the public service. It will, therefore, most grossly disappoint the people of England. Those of the working classes and those of the clergy who expect they will be able to perform their promises, will find themselves utterly disappointed. Their promises can't be fulfilled, and therefore the evil will not to us be so great as was intended, or as it seemed to be at the first examination [hear, hear]. From the determination which I believe exists among the Dissenters to cling to their schools, to improve them to the utmost, and to stretch their liberality also to the utmost in their support, I derive encouragement, and I believe we shall find that in the maintenance of those principles we shall have the support both of the people and of a higher power, and that we shall at last bring both our principles and our cause to a triumphant issue [loud applause].

Mr. YEWALL (Wesleyan Association) then proposed the following resolution:—

That, since the opposition offered to the present Government scheme has been the result of solemn conscientious conviction, this meeting, whilst protesting against the recent vote of the House of Commons in its favour, express their determination to use all constitutional means for the prevention of renewed grants, and resolve to pursue a course of determined and persevering exertion for the entire withdrawal of the measure itself, and to obtain the abrogation of the Committee of the Privy Council for Education.

[Hear, hear]. He viewed the measure of Government as only the first of a series of attacks upon the principles of Nonconformists. The time had now come when they must firmly maintain their principles. He was resolved to have nothing to do with any man that would not go the whole length [applause]. It would be said Lord Morpeth was a nobleman of excellent qualities. He admitted that, but it was not the point [hear, hear]. My Lord Morpeth had abused the confidence the Nonconformists placed in him; he had touched a tender and vital point, and could not trust him any more [great cheering].

Mr. HASTIE briefly seconded the resolution.

The next resolution was moved by Mr. SCALES, Independent minister, of Leeds, and seconded by Mr. JOSEPH TOWN, Baptist.

Mr. PLINT moved the next resolution:—

That this meeting, seeing that the Education to be given according to the Minutes of Council is avowedly and strictly religious, whilst they are conscious that their opposition springs from no narrow or sectarian feeling, emphatically renew the avowal of their great principle, that all interference of Civil Government with religion is inconsistent with its spirituality, and with the rights of conscience; and they further avow the principle that the education of the people does not fall within the province of the Civil Government, and is incompatible with its proper functions: they, therefore, recommend that the broad principles be everywhere adopted, as constituting sound and safe grounds of opposition to the obnoxious measure against which they are now protesting.

He followed it up with an able speech against the interference of Government, either in the religious or secular education of the people.

CHARLES WATSON, Esq., (Wesleyan), seconded the resolution, and confessed that his own views and principles had been confirmed. He felt that we, as a nation, were greatly indebted to the Nonconformist body for the part they had taken on this great and important question.

Mr. PLINT (in the absence of Mr. R. W. Campbell, of Stockton-on-Tees) proposed the sixth resolution, which read as follows:—

That this meeting, deeply impressed with the obligation that rests on them, in common with the whole community, to promote, as far as in them lies, the work of free education, to determine for themselves, and earnestly press upon the several bodies which they represent, the importance and duty of sustaining, to the utmost of their ability, the Sunday and day-schools existing among them—of extending the benefits of education to vicinities in which there is a deficiency, and of seeking the continued improvement of the system of education; and they further suggest it as worthy of consideration, whether an educational board may not be advantageously organised expressly for this county, together with a normal school for the training of teachers.

Dr. GORDON, of Hull, seconded the resolution.

Mr. W. HUDSWELL, Independent minister, proposed the seventh and last resolution:—

That the experience of Nonconformists for ages past, and especially for the last few years, is calculated to teach the importance of more widely and earnestly enforcing their peculiar principles, especially in reference to the separation of Church and State; and the meeting strongly recommends that the attempt to enforce them should be conducted, as on the ground of civil and religious liberty, so especially also on that of evangelical principle; and that to this end organizations should be formed, whether on a distinct basis, or in connexion with existing institutions, for the purpose of diffusing sound opinions by public meetings, lectures, and the press; and that all these movements be conducted in the spirit of devotion and in the temper of the Gospel.

This resolution was received with very hearty and repeated cheers. Mr. HUDSWELL said he was exceedingly rejoiced to hear the response. He thought the time had come when they must go as a combined body for the separation of Church and State [applause]. He was prepared, and he was satisfied that the town and the Riding would be prepared, not to move at all at the election for any man who would not fairly, fully, and clearly represent the principles of Dissenters in the House of Commons [cheers].

Mr. THOMAS MORGAN seconded the resolution, which was adopted by acclamation. The proceedings then terminated.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The annual distribution of prizes in the faculty of medicine took place on Saturday week. Lord Brougham presided; and there was a very crowded attendance of the friends of the college and of the pupils. Mr. Lister, the dean of the faculty, read a report, stating that 290 students had attended the medical classes during this session. Last year the number was 292. Two assistant-physicians and an assistant-surgeon had been appointed to the hospital. The completion of the hospital would not only greatly extend its usefulness to the public, but afford the means of raising it to the highest degree of efficiency as a practical school of medical instruction in alliance with the college. Among the successful competitors, we find the following:—Class of medicine; 1st silver medal and 2nd certificate, H. Briggs, Halifax.—Anatomy and Physiology; 2nd silver medal and 3rd certificate, D. Badcock, Sheffield.—Midwifery; 2nd silver medal and 3rd certificate, H. Briggs. After the distribution, Lord Brougham briefly addressed the students, in the course of which he alluded to the subject of education, and said:—

He had, however, recently heard things stated which made him doubt whether they were living in 1847 [laughter]. He would not give any opinion on the controversy which had lately spread over the country and reached the town. He would not say whether his old and excellent friends, Mr. Baines and Dr. Hamilton, were right, or Lord Lansdowne, who was one of his oldest friends; but he had seen such things mooted by certain sects, one trying to exclude or include the other [laughter]—that, as he had mentioned in another place, he was obliged to look one day into the almanack to see whether he really was living in 1847, for he thought he was living in 1837 [loud laughter]. It turned out by the almanack—from which in such matters there was no appeal [laughter]—that he was living in the year 1847, and he hoped therefore that the diffusion of knowledge among the people would end in a more complete and effectual common education, and that the same progress would be made in the inferior branches as was now made in the higher and more exalted branches of learning [cheers]. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to his Lordship.

The Council of the College, at their session on the same day, approved of a scheme for the application of the dividends of the fund produced by the £2,000, bequeathed to the college by the late Mr. Holloway, banker, of Hereford. In compliance with the wish expressed by the testator, they determined that the dividends should be appropriated to paying the school fees of boys in the school distinguished for their merit who need pecuniary assistance in their education: the head master from time to time to report to the council the names and circumstances of pupils deserving such an exhibition. The Council had the satisfaction of conferring the first exhibition on Thomas Hood, the son of the late Mr. Thomas Hood, the poet. At the same session, the council appointed Mr. Bennett Woodcroft, of Manchester, to the newly instituted Professorship of Descriptive Machinery.

Considerable quantities of bullion reached the Bank of England, and private houses, in the course of Friday. The several steamers from Boulogne to Folkestone have each brought over large sums in gold.—Times.

Friday night's Gazette notifies the appointment of Lord Belhaven as High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

SUNDERLAND.—EDUCATIONAL TEA MEETING.

On Wednesday last, the friends of voluntary education in Sunderland held a public tea-meeting in the Polytechnic-hall, Athenaeum. The special object of the meeting was to endeavour to extend voluntary education in the town. Owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather, the company was not so large as it would otherwise have been. About 200 sat down to tea, and a great number of the friends of voluntaryism, who were unable to attend at an earlier hour, were present at the meeting afterwards. After the removal of the trays, Mr. John Hills was called to the chair, who introduced the business of the evening in a very appropriate and interesting speech. He stated, that whatever difference of opinion might exist as to the best means of extending education, whether by the interference of the State, or the unfettered power of voluntaryism, all were agreed on the importance of the universal diffusion of the blessings of education. The future course of Dissenters, under the circumstances which had so recently transpired, appeared to be clearly marked out. Since they cannot without grossly outraging their religious principles, and violating their consciences, accept of the money voted by the Legislature for the carrying out of the Minutes of Council, they had still left open before them the course which they had hitherto so laudably pursued, viz., the extension of voluntary education; and although, by the recent Minutes of Council, their difficulties were materially multiplied, yet he had no doubt that, if they remained firm to their principles, and rallied round the banner of liberty, at the same time endeavouring to the utmost of their ability to diffuse the blessings of a sound and enlightened education, the principles of truth and justice (though now apparently trodden under foot of men) would ultimately triumph over every species of opposition which may be brought against them.

Mr. S. S. HOBSON (one of the secretaries in the late educational movement) entered at some length into the subject of establishing additional Dissenting schools in the borough, stating that, although there was a considerable lack of education in the town, yet that lack was not so fearfully extensive as many had supposed—that from statistics which had been carefully gathered up, they found that in the three parishes, Sunderland, and the Wearmouths, there were not less than one in nine of the entire population receiving daily instruction, whilst school accommodation existed for one in six! The great bulk of the deficiency, he said, was to be found in the eastern extremity of the town, where the greatest portion of poverty and destitution existed, and where they contemplated the immediate establishment of a Dissenting day-school. He next adverted to the charge of inefficiency, which, during the late movement, had been so extensively preferred against the voluntary principle. The voluntary principle a failure! "Where, or in what," he would inquire, "had it failed?" In diffusing the benignant blessings of the Gospel of peace? Nay, voluntaryism had invariably led the way in every movement characterised by Christian philanthropy and beneficence. In education the voluntary principle had, up to this time, been almost the nation's only resource, and nobly had it accomplished its work. Much had been done by its power to elevate the masses of the people, but it had not fully accomplished its task before being rudely assailed by the State, and placed under the ban, as incompetent to meet the wants of the community. It had not failed even in education, but was rapidly advancing with giant strides. Voluntaryism a failure! Has it failed in the dissemination of religious truth—in the erection of sanctuaries—in the maintenance of Divine ordinances? Look at Sunderland. What has the power of the voluntary principle done here? By whom have the religious wants of the people been most amply contemplated and provided for? By the voluntary or the compulsionist? Who have erected those numerous sanctuaries which meet us at almost every turn—the Dissenter or the Churchman? Let us look back a little. Since 1821 (a quarter of a century ago) there have been reared in the town of Sunderland, in connection with the Establishment, one place of worship, capable of holding 1,200 persons; in connection with Voluntaryism, nineteen places of worship, capable of holding 14,350 persons! And this is the principle which has so woefully failed! What is the extent of Church and Chapel accommodation at present existing in the town? There are, in connection with the Establishment, seven places of worship, holding about 9,800 persons; in connection with the Dissenters, thirty-three places of worship, holding about 22,000! Where, then, is the failure? Not, surely, in Voluntaryism, but in the dominant Church—the Church established by law. He concluded by urging the immediate establishment of a school in the destitute locality to which he had previously referred.

Mr. MUR (Secession Minister) next addressed the meeting, and referred to the religious clauses of the Ministerial scheme of education as being most decidedly objectionable. He doubted not the Dissenters were sufficiently able to support one or more additional schools in the town, and was happy that they had made a move in that direction, towards which he would gladly contribute his influence.

Mr. LISTER, of Rotherham, in an able and interesting speech, deprecated the interference of Government in the matter of education, and expressed an apprehension that they would not stop there, but would stealthily and insiduously seek to extend their supervision over public lecturers, the press, and even the pulpit itself; all of which, he contended, were powerful instruments in training the minds of the people.

Mr. T. POTTS, in an animated speech, met several arguments which had been advanced by the promoters of the Government plan of Education, and in a somewhat humorous way pointed out the internal difficulties which the Minutes of Council involved, especially with regard to the pupil teacher and stipendiary monitor, whom the parochial clergymen had power to remove from beneath their parents' roof, and place "in an approved household," whilst the only pecuniary provision made by the Minutes for those classes of officers

was the bare pittance of £10 for the teacher, and £5 for the monitor, as salary for the first year, gradually rising. The craft of the Government Inspector, too, (who was to be an adept in so many distinct branches of business, concerning which he was to report the progress and attainments of the children,) fell under his special criticism, and, after a somewhat amusing process of argumentation, he at length decided that, as they must inspect and report on the stitchings of the boys, and the needle-work of the girls, he must necessarily be, by profession, a tailor.

Mr. WATKINSON (Independent minister), in reference to the late educational agitation, said that if the events which had recently transpired at head quarters did not open the eyes of the Nonconformists of this country, they deserved to be blindfolded all their lives. Dissenters, he argued, ought to be more than ever zealous in defence of their principles, and united in resisting every attack on these principles. He heartily concurred in the object of the meeting, but thought that as there already existed in Sunderland a very flourishing British School, it might be well to erect the contemplated school on the opposite side of the river; or at any rate commence two additional schools, and let them have one of them on their side. He concluded by moving "that a committee be appointed to carry out the extension of voluntary education in the town, and that they be requested to correspond with the Secretary of the British-school Society in this town, to ascertain if arrangements can be made to connect any schools which may be raised with that institution. The committee to consist of Messrs. Muir, Hodgson, Potts, Pearce, Botterill, Parker, Hills, Foster, Phillips, and Oliver, with power to add to their number.

Mr. BOTTERILL, Baptist minister, in a very interesting speech, seconded the resolution. In doing so he referred to the Minutes of Council in their bearing on the interests of Dissent, and expressed an opinion, that, as those Minutes had for the present received the sanction of the legislature, they (the Dissenters), must endeavour to make them as harmless as possible. It appears from the debates in Parliament, he said, that Government was determined to dip its hands in the subject of education, and he conceived that the duty of Dissenters, under these circumstances, was to endeavour to take off the sharp edge of the measure, and let it fall as lightly as possible. Holding these sentiments, he would suggest that a committee should be appointed by that meeting, to adopt measures to oppose the religious clauses of the Minutes of Council, and thus remove the most objectionable portion of the measure. This, he thought, would be a step in the right direction, and if accomplished, would doubtless lead ultimately to the entire abandonment of the scheme as developed in these Minutes.

Mr. E. BACKHOUSE, jun., briefly supported the resolution, and would gladly assist in carrying out the wishes of the meeting.

The motion was then put and carried.

Mr. E. P. HOOD, in a somewhat lengthened speech, which was listened to with the deepest interest, pointed out the blessings which might be expected to result from a general diffusion of education, and urged the friends present to exert themselves in the noble cause of emancipating the human spirit from the thralldom of ignorance in which it is too often encased.

Mr. PARKER, Secession minister, moved "That the committee already existing in opposition to the Government Education Scheme, be appointed a permanent Committee, to devise the best means to oppose the religious clauses of the Minutes of Council, and seek their abolition," which was seconded by Mr. BOTTERILL, and carried unanimously.

Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

POST-OFFICE FACILITIES.—The London receiving-houses are now kept open from half-past five to six o'clock p.m., for the receipt of late letters, whether inland, foreign, colonial, or ship letters, intended for the general post, on payment of the late-letter fee of one penny and postage of such letters by attaching the requisite number of stamps, any letter not bearing which will be detained till the next despatch.

THE INSTALLATION OF PRINCE ALBERT AT CAMBRIDGE.—We are enabled to state, upon the best authority, that it is the intention of the Queen, as well as his Royal Highness, the Chancellor of the University, to honour Cambridge with a visit at the ensuing commencement. It is expected that her Majesty and her Royal Consort will be present at the performance of the installation ode in the Senate-house, on Tuesday, July 6, and will pass two nights in Cambridge.—*Cambridge Chronicle.*

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.—A notice posted in the Underwriters' rooms of Liverpool, yesterday, announces that in future such deck passengers as arrive from Ireland at that port are to be examined in quarantine, and such of them as labour under disease removed to the lazarettos.

SMITHFIELD.—At a recent meeting of the Farmers' Club, it was carried by a large majority, that the removal of Smithfield Market is highly desirable, and that the day of market should be changed from Monday to Tuesday.

SHOCKING INFANTICIDE.—Mary Hughes, a married woman with three young children, lodged with her sister-in-law, who keeps a road-side public-house near Llanybydder, in Carmarthenshire. On Wednesday week, the landlady left Hughes in charge of the house while she went out for the day; on her return in the evening, she found the house closed, and her sister-in-law absent; in an upper room she encountered a horrid sight—the three children hanging by the neck to a beam, all dead. The mother could not be found; but there was every reason to suppose that she had been the murderer of her children. The mother has been apprehended, at a distance of ten miles from her home, after she had wandered about the country for several days. Her manner showed that her mind was deranged. She has admitted that she killed her children. Their ages were five years, three years, and twelve months.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

On Wednesday, Mr. WALPOLE moved the second reading of his Registration of Voters Bill, which he explained:—The efficiency and integrity of the representation depends altogether on the machinery of the Registration Courts. The present system gives to the objectors an immense advantage over the party objected to: hundreds of votes are struck off on the ground of some mere technical error; and to such an extent is this carried, that every county constituency undergoes a complete change once in ten years. The objectors are generally persons of no station. If the persons objected to do appear, some little misdescription is often established to prevent costs from being given; and it often happens that parties will not be at the trouble to attend and defend their votes. Some guarantee ought to be given for the *bona fides* of the objector; and the aim should be to obtain substantial rather than mere technical accuracy. By the present bill it was proposed to be enacted, that if a person once proved his vote, he should be entitled to the privilege of having a "proved registered vote," and his name would remain on the list as long as he retained the same qualification. If, however, his vote were a second time objected to, after he had substantiated it against the objection made, the objector should have forty shillings costs. He proposed that objections to the validity of the qualification or the particulars of the description respectively should be kept distinct. A properly qualified voter ought to have the opportunity of correcting his description; which Mr. Walpole provided for by the signing of a statutory declaration before a magistrate. The system of "double entry" causes great confusion, and affords the principal opportunity for personation. In West Yorkshire, there are at this moment between 1,000 and 2,000 double entries of voters; some names being entered as many as ten or eleven times. In North Moels, South Lancashire, out of 540 votes, 123 are double entries. He proposed that a voter objected to on the ground of double entry should be bound to choose at what polling-place he would give his vote, and that his vote should be refused at other polling-places. He proposed that the objector should be required to reside in the same district with the person objected to; and that he should deposit 2s. 6d. with the overseers, to cover costs; the revising barrister, however, having the discretion of allowing more costs in the case of vexatious objection. Mr. Walpole proposed to revive the Splitting Act passed by Lord Somers, which prevented more than one vote from being given for the same tenement. It has been decided by the Courts within the last two years, that the clause in the act applicable to the subject applies only to fraudulent cases. Now a house is frequently purchased and split up into perhaps fifty votes; and the election for West Yorkshire actually turned upon votes of that kind; the constituency being swamped by persons upon the register who did not bear one shilling of the county burdens. Mr. Walpole referred to his own experience as Revising-barrister for South Lancashire and Middlesex, for proof of the incredible vexation, annoyance, and expense, to which properly-qualified voters are so often put by reckless and indiscriminate objections.

Sir GEORGE GREY hoped that the House would agree to the second reading of the bill, which was framed on the recommendation of the committee appointed last session. It contained many valuable provisions, some on which there might be difference of opinion; and he should be happy in committee to complete its clauses so as to effect its objects.

Mr. BRIGHT, without opposing the second reading of the bill, defended the Anti-Corn-Law League against the charges which led to the appointment of the committee last session; charges, he maintained, which were completely refuted by the evidence taken before the committee. In the course of his speech he mentioned an enumeration in the report of the committee, setting forth the different county qualifications, which comprise no fewer than 1,276 varieties.

Several other Members expressed approval of the bill, and it was read a second time.

STATE OF THE FRAMEWORK-KNITTERS.

On Wednesday, Sir HENRY HALFORD moved the second reading of the Hosiery Manufacturers Bill. He entered into elaborate statements to show the excessive distress under which the framework-knitters of Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire suffer. The deterioration of their state has been progressive since 1819, when Robert Hall made a powerful appeal in their behalf. In a staple article of their manufacture wages had fallen from 7s. to 4s. 6d.; the people lived in the extremest misery; whole families sleeping in the same room, sometimes three or even five in a bed. An increase of demand brings no increase of wages: more work is done, but as wages keep falling people earn no more. The chief grievances are, heavy deductions from wages, mainly in the shape of rent for the frames which the knitters use at home, and the profit of the middlemen, who go between the journeyman and the large manufacturers. The objects of his bill were three—to do away with the sub-contractors; to abolish frame-rents; and to oblige manufacturers to enter in their books the wages actually paid.

Mr. WYNN ELLIS stated that his constituents (of Leicester) are opposed to the bill, and he altogether dissented from Sir Henry Halford's view as to the causes of the misery, which he imputed to the want of education, the practice of bringing up children to an over-peopled trade, the truck system, and intemperance. The middlemen, whom the bill proposed to abolish, are the most intelligent and trustworthy men of the operative class. The position which they acquire by their own industry is one of which they ought not to be deprived. The adoption of the bill would oblige the manufacturers to build extensive warehouses: they must be repaid for that outlay: they could not do it by raising the price of goods, and therefore they must do it by still further trenching upon the depressed wages of the workpeople.

Mr. GIBBONE (Nottingham) also opposed the bill. He declared that the House had placed itself in a difficulty by adopting the Factory Bill, to which this was

a corollary: having declared by statute what was a "fair day's work," the House ought now to undertake to say what was "a fair day's wages." Then this bill was to put down middlemen. He knew what a dreadful character a middleman was supposed to be; they had almost a constitutional aversion to him. But many of these workmen live ten, twelve, or fourteen miles from the manufacturer who employs them: and instead of losing two days a week in going for yarn and carrying back the goods, walking twenty or more miles each day, the middleman with a horse and cart carries the goods there and back for a number of the workmen at once, with profit and advantage to both parties.

At half-past five o'clock, the debate was adjourned.

INDIAN COTTON.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, Mr. BRIGHT moved the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the progress of the cultivation of cotton in India. The question involved, he said, is one of the greatest practical importance. What the potato crop was to Ireland, the cotton crop is to Lancashire: the failure of the one would be equally disastrous with the failure of the other. The quantity of raw cotton consumed in 1846 was 614,000,000 pounds; it is estimated that 2,000,000 of persons are in one way or another engaged in the cotton manufacture; and the capital is calculated at £31,600,600. It is therefore very desirable to guard against a failure in the supply of cotton. The stock of cotton in the United Kingdom at the end of 1844 amounted to 902,000 bales, or thirty-three weeks' consumption; at the end of 1845, 1,006,000 bales, or thirty-five weeks' consumption; at the end of 1846, 545,400 bales, or eighteen weeks' consumption. During the last year, the manufacture consumed more than 10,000 bales per week, in addition to the quantity imported. The effect has been to raise the price of cotton from 4d. to 7d. the pound. Meanwhile the crop in the United States has decreased: in 1844 it was estimated at 2,400,000 bales; in 1845, at 2,100,000; in 1846, at 1,800,000 or 2,000,000 bales. What is the probability of supplies for the future? Formerly, supplies came from other countries, and among them from India: but while the importations from the United States have increased 600 per cent., those from India have only increased 50 per cent. In 1818, India exported to England and China 140,000,000 pounds' weight of cotton. Several authorities have pronounced India to be suitable in soil and climate for the growth of the plant. The East India Directors have expended £100,000 in experiments, which have failed; but the failure seemed imputable to accidental coincidences. What he wanted was an inquiry into the cause of those failures.

Sir JOHN HOBHOUSE said that Government would not oppose the motion; but that Indian cultivators should ever compete with the United States, he thought a thing out of the question. The decay of the cultivation in India he imputed to the fact that English manufactures had superseded those of India, that country itself being supplied from Lancashire.

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK supported the motion; and contended that the thing wanted to encourage the growth of cotton in India is protection.

When Lord George resumed his seat, a Member moved that the House be counted; and as forty members were not present, the House stood adjourned.

IRISH MEASURES AND IRISH PAUPERS.

Irish measures occupied a large share of attention in the House of Commons on Friday. In reply to an early question from Mr. HUME, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said, that the bill for granting £620,000 to certain Irish railways should be postponed till Friday next.

In reply to Sir BENJAMIN HALL, Sir GEORGE GREY explained the actual state of measures rendered necessary by the influx of Irish paupers at Liverpool. Since the 15th of January last, the number of Irish paupers landed at Liverpool has been not less than 180,000. Of this number 40,000 or 50,000 emigrated to America; others passed on to various parts of England; but 80,000 remain in Liverpool, and are now a burden on its poor-rates. Two ships stationed in the Mersey will be placed at the disposal of the authorities, as lazarettos. Steam-boats bringing over fever patients from Ireland will be obliged to hoist the yellow flag, and disembark their patients at the lazarettos. Notice has also been given to the owners of steam-boats, that if they persist in bringing over such passengers, it will be necessary to place their vessels in quarantine. Government cannot give a money grant in aid of rates to support those burdens on Liverpool, but tents will be provided for the immigrants; and at Cardiff, a public building belonging to the Ordnance will be granted for that purpose. Sir George had received information, that 250 or 300 passengers, shipwrecked at Wexford, had been sent over to Liverpool by the mayor and inhabitants of Wexford. Such an abuse could only be checked by the Poor Removal Bill, which stood for its second reading that evening.

The Committee on the Punishment of Vagrants (Ireland) Bill gave occasion for some further remarks. Lord JOHN RUSSELL had before declared that the Irish cannot be deprived of the right of begging if the right of relief is not given to them. If the Poor Relief Bill were rendered temporary, this measure also must be limited in duration. Circumstances are every day occurring to confirm his opinion that the Poor Relief Bill is absolutely necessary for the salvation of Ireland. He had heard of persons of rank and station who had induced the political serfs to sell the forty-shilling freeholds, once encouraged as serviceable to the landlord, and had then refused to give any relief to those persons. Mr. Nicholls and Mr. Guiston, who formerly entertained strong opinions against out-door relief in Ireland, now declared it to be positively necessary.—With some discussion, the bill passed through Committee; to be reconsidered at later stages.

THE POOR RELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

On Friday night the House of Lords resumed the committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill, which was again subject to contest, clause by clause; but we only notice those amendments which had some positive result.

A desultory conversation took place on the amendment carried by Lord Montagu on Thursday, limiting

the portion of the bill conferring the right to out-door relief for the able-bodied, to the 1st of August, 1848.

Lord MONTAGLE repeated that he only wanted to make the out-door relief clauses temporary: but it was observed that even that change involved a good deal of troublesome alteration. The Earl of WICKLOW said the bill had been put into "confusion." Lord MONTAGLE warmly disclaimed the having introduced "confusion." The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that all his noble friend's ingenuity would not get them out of the confusion which he had caused. Earl GREY showed the inconsistencies which had been produced between the permanent and temporary parts of the bill. The truth was, that Lord Montague wished to give a damaging blow to the bill; and the public would perceive, and he hoped appreciate, the spirit in which it was intended to "amend" this measure.

Clause 6th authorized relieving-officers, in cases of extreme want, to give relief provisionally until the next meeting of the guardians: Lord STANLEY proposed to substitute another clause, directing the appointment of a relief committee in each electoral division, to consist of the resident guardians and the two highest rate-payers of the division, which would attain the object of the clause by means of a better and more responsible machinery. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE feared that in many districts the proposed machinery would not be available; but he promised to re-consider the original clause; and the amendment was withdrawn.

The 11th clause enacted, that when the rate for the relief of the poor in any electoral division shall exceed 1s. 3d. in the pound in the half-year, the excess shall be charged to the union at large. Lord STANLEY objected, that this clause would virtually substitute a union rate for a district rate; and he repeated the arguments used in the House of Commons, that it would enable the improvident and reckless landowner to shift his burden on others. He moved the omission of the clause. In defending this clause, Earl GREY argued against the fallacy that it is the duty of every landed proprietor to give employment to the people on his estate, not for the sake of the returns in the shape of profit, but by way of charity [the Opposition cheered, as if affirming the proposition that Earl Grey was denying]. On a division, the clause was negatived, by 73 to 54; majority against the Government, 19.

The Earl of WICKLOW moved the omission of the 15th and 16th clauses, providing for the separate rating of tithe-composition or rent-charge. This amendment was adopted.

On reaching the 19th clause, the committee was adjourned till Monday, on the motion of Lord LANSDOWNE.

On Monday night the Committee was resumed.

On clause twenty, providing for the unions being changed when necessary, without the consent of the guardians, coming up, the Earl of WICKLOW moved, as an amendment thereto, the insertion of words into the clause, rendering it lawful for commissioners, whenever they should see fit, to form into separate electoral divisions towns with a population of three thousand and upwards. After a brief desultory conversation, the amendment was negatived without a division.

The Earl of WICKLOW then moved the addition of certain words to the clause, to the effect that the Commissioners should not be empowered to alter any union or electoral division, without the consent and approval of the Lord-Lieutenant. This amendment, on the suggestion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, was postponed; after which, the clause was agreed to.

On clause twenty-four being brought up, Lord MONTAGLE recommended the insertion of a clause into the bill, empowering the Commissioners to effect a union of unions for educational purposes, industrial instruction to be superadded to the ordinary branches of education. After a few words from the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, who acknowledged the value of the suggestion, and said that he would take the matter embodied in it into consideration, the clause was agreed to.

Clauses twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven, and twenty-eight were agreed to.

Lord STANLEY then rose to propose the clause of which he had given notice. He began by declaring that he would not be deterred from submitting this alteration of the bill to their lordships by the misapprehensions and misrepresentations which had been circulated, not within the walls of that house, as to the motives from which this clause had originated; he would not be influenced by the insinuations which had been so liberally made as to the possible political object and consequences of the clause. He denied altogether that this was a landlords' amendment; he should be ashamed, connected as he was with property in Ireland, to propose a measure primarily beneficial to the class with which he was connected, accompanied with any corresponding disadvantage to any other class. So far from this being a landlords' clause, if it was anything especially, it was especially a labourers' clause. The question was how best to conduct the perilous experiment upon which they had entered, and in what way to make the property of Ireland best bear the burden about to be thrown upon it. He wanted their lordships to deal with Irish property as English property was dealt with. The noble lord then proceeded to show the unequal working of the bill, in its present state, upon the landlords and upon the tenants of Ireland. The rating of the land was upon an average below the rental; and where land was rated at £20 and paid a rent of £30, the occupying tenant, paying a 1s. rate, would deduct from the rent, not twenty, but thirty sixpences, so that one quarter of the rate only would be borne by the tenant, and three-quarters by the landlord. In the majority of cases the proportions would be one-third and two-thirds. This would lead to the demoralization of parishes, the destruction of independent labourers, and an overflow of pauperism. He asked nothing more for the landlords of Ireland, or for the tenants or labouring population of that country, than had been justly secured to those of England. The noble lord concluded by moving the following clause:—

That, save in certain cases provided, no occupier of rateable property, holding under any future lease or agreement, nor any tenant at will, or from year to year, after the 1st of January, 1850, shall deduct from his rent any rate imposed subsequent to such lease or agreement, or subsequent to the 1st of January, 1850.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE did not hesitate to say that the adoption of this clause would be disastrous to Ireland, and to the measure before their lordships. The division of the rate between the landlord and the occupying tenant was a principle which had been already tried, and found to work well. He thought it expedient that the tenant should pay half the rate; and, though there might be cases in which the rating and the rent might be so unequal as to lead to the results stated by the noble lord, a process was going on which would equalize the valuations of rent and rate, and he thought that equality might be restored. But if the law was imperfect in its details, that was no reason for departing from its principle, which would be the consequence of adopting the proposed clause. The noble marquis pointed out the injurious effects of such an enactment, and its repugnancy to the whole policy of the measure, and earnestly entreated their lordships to dissent from the amendment.

Lord WALSHINGHAM was understood to dissent, as well as Lord MONTAGLE, who did not differ from the general principles of Lord Stanley, but believed that the introduction of this clause would, in the social state of Ireland, render the collection of rates there impossible.

The Earl of HARDWICKE supported the amendment, from a conviction that he should not otherwise act with justice and with safety towards Ireland.

The Earl of ST. GERMAN took an opposite view of the amendment, and believed that Lord Stanley had greatly exaggerated the disproportion between the ratings and the rents, the difference not exceeding fifteen per cent., and the power given to the commissioners to make new valuations enabling them to correct even this inequality. He was of opinion that the clause would deprive the bill of all chance of that success which he hoped would attend it when it became the law of the land.

The Archbishop of DUBLIN, although he approved the principle of Lord Stanley's clause, thought it not applicable to Ireland at the present time, and, though with great reluctance, must oppose it. He feared, from communications he had received from Ireland, that the prejudices against the clause would be likely to defeat altogether the working of the bill.

Lord REDESDALE supported the amendment.

The Earl of ROSEBERRY replied to some of the observations of Lord Redesdale, and declared that he would rather the bill should not pass at all, than with such a clause as that proposed by Lord Stanley.

The Earl of CLANCARTY should withhold his vote altogether.

Lord STANLEY then rose to reply. He appealed to the almost universal testimony which had been borne to the soundness of the principle upon which this clause was based, as justifying the proposition contained in it. It had been said that the Poor-law in Ireland had worked well; but what Poor-law? If the law had remained unaltered in principle, he should not have proposed this clause. All his main arguments had been untouched; no answer had been given to his question, "Would you apply this measure to England?" Notwithstanding, however, the soundness of his principle, and the correctness of his conclusions, he had the great pain of seeing that a large portion of their lordships had determined upon the rejection of the clause, and he foresaw that the decision would be a most unhappy one. He would not trouble their lordships, therefore, to divide, but would withdraw his amendment. At the same time, so strongly did he feel the soundness of his views, that he should feel it to be his duty, for form's sake, to move his amendment upon bringing up the report, not with a view of discussing it, or of dividing upon it, but to put the clause upon record, and he believed the future would vindicate the soundness of it.

Lord MONTAGLE then moved a clause to remedy the effects of his amendment, making certain parts of the bill temporary. This led to a discussion, in the course of which various topics connected with the whole policy of the measure were incidentally touched upon. In the end the clause was agreed to.

Two other amendments were deferred until the bringing up of the report.

The bill was then reported, with the amendments, to the House, and the report was ordered to be considered on Friday next.

THE MONETARY SYSTEM.

In the House of Commons on Friday Sir C. Wood gave notice of a resolution for Monday on the state of the money-market. Several deputations received by Ministers had, he said, suggested various measures, all substantially amounting to repeal or suspension of the present law by which the currency of the country is regulated. That is a course which Government are not prepared to adopt [cheers]. At the same time, it is desirable to give every facility which can be legitimately given to the public. Sir Charles's statement last week had been misunderstood on one point. He did not say that the danger was over, but that the necessity for the stringent measures adopted by the Bank had passed. The Bank has been enabled to give increased accommodation, its own state being much better: the last return shows a very much improved condition. And since last Saturday the Bank has received £400,000 in gold and silver bullion; thus the circulation of the country has been increased, nearly that amount of notes having been issued in exchange.

On Monday evening, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the order of the day for going into committee on loan, discount, and instalment, and then brought forward his resolution in pursuance of his motion on Friday. He deemed it unnecessary to say much in addition to the statement which he made on Friday; but he should briefly explain what amount of benefit the Government expected to derive from the present measure, as it had been erroneously represented that they hoped the measure would be quite sufficient of itself to put an end to the present pressure. It was obvious that that pressure arose to a very great extent from the dearth of food, and the consequent inability of a great portion of the population to purchase any other articles. In such an emergency, when the rate of discount was so enormously great, and Government securities scarcely sale-

able, it was evident that it was better to incur the additional burden which the present measure would impose, in order to increase the public confidence, and raise Exchequer-bills to their proper level in the market. This could only be done by altering the rate of interest upon them, and by raising the discount on the loan; and he believed that the result of such measures would be so beneficial, that it would be found good economy to adopt them. The benefit was not to consist so much in actual amount of money to be let loose as in the increased facilities which would be given to the operations of the money market by dissipating alarm and restoring confidence. The present unsaleability of Exchequer-bills compelled the parties who held them to have recourse to the bill brokers to pay up the money deposited with them; but the premium which it was proposed to give on Exchequer-bills would henceforth obviate that necessity, and save discount so far. He took pains to contradict in an explicit manner the exaggerated statements that were abroad of the demand made by Government on the Bank of England. He had himself forewarned the Bank what that demand would be; and it was not therefore unexpected nor extraordinary. He was glad to say that trade had now resumed its usual course, and he gave a very favourable account of the turn which monetary affairs and commercial prospects had that day assumed in the City; concluding by moving his resolution that any contributor to the loan, who shall pay into the Bank of England money on account of the loan, shall be allowed five per cent. if that payment be made on or before the 18th of June, or four per cent. if it be made on or before the 10th of September.

A long conversational discussion ensued.

Mr. HUME was dissatisfied with the explanations given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and regretted that some step was not taken to put the monetary affairs of the kingdom on a sounder basis. He contended that more of the present pressure arose from alarm than from the actual want of money—that we had been guilty of one great error, in permitting the Government to depend on the Bank for the payment of the dividends, which we ought to correct by withdrawing that permission as soon as possible—and that we had been guilty of another, in limiting the issues of the Bank. We should have compelled the Bank of England to pay in gold at once, and then we should have had no fluctuations in the currency, and should not have been exposed to our present distress. It was therefore time for us to reconsider the measures which we had taken, and to see whether we could not place our transactions with the Bank on a sounder footing. In his opinion the amount of the currency ought not to be restricted within the iron bounds of the law; but gold should be placed in the same situation in the market as cotton, sugar, hemp, or any other commodity.

Mr. MASTERMAN did not intend to oppose this resolution, but thought that it would not alleviate the uneasy feeling which now existed in the money-market. He contended that the alarm had arisen from the improper measures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Under the present Bank Bill the Bank could not advance £2,000,000 to the Government on deficiency bills every quarter, and yet do justice to the commercial interests of the country. If the demands of the Government on the Bank were discontinued, more would be done to alleviate the pressure than could be done by any other measure. He should, therefore, propose the following addition to the resolution of Sir C. Wood, that—

This committee is of opinion that nothing would so relieve the pressure on the money market as an assurance from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he would apply to Parliament for power to allow the Bank to make advances to the Government on deficiency bills out of the issue department of the Bank, rather than from the banking department; such advances to be paid out of the growing revenue, and such rule to apply to all transactions of the same kind.

The Chairman (Mr. GREENE) informed Mr. Masterman that he could not move this amendment, as it had no connexion with the subject matter referred by the House to the committee.

Mr. BROWN expressed, in very strong terms, his sense of the extremity of the present pressure. Confidence, which was the life of a commercial country, was almost extinct in the country. Men dared not enter into contracts with each other. He was afraid that the last accounts from the United States were not so flattering as to lead us to believe that there would be in that market a greater demand for our produce or a less demand for our gold. We must send gold to the United States, or our people must starve. He then suggested a plan for alleviating the present pressure on the money-market. He proposed to call in the present gold circulation, and to substitute for it a portion of bank-notes, taking bullion as security for part of the notes so issued, and the security of the Bank for the remainder.

Mr. NEWDEGATE observed, that on the experience of practical men, he had ventured to predict, in the year 1844, that the results of the Bank Act which Parliament then passed would be such as they had been graphically described to be that evening.

Mr. FORBES expressed his satisfaction that he had been one of the small minority of eighteen who, headed by Mr. Hawes and Mr. C. Buller, had entered their protest at the time against the Bank Act. The country was now suffering under its operation, and would continue to suffer still further, unless it was repealed.

After a few remarks from Mr. FINCH, in favour of an inconvertible currency,

Lord G. BENTINCK thought that the Chancellor of the Exchequer's propositions would go no further than to save himself, and would not give to the trading interest that ease which it imperiously required. In proposing to discount his own loan, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not informed the House whether he had any substantial reason for asserting that the contractors of the loan were anxious to have their instalments discounted at 4 and 5 per cent., according to the terms of these resolutions. Considering that the usual rate of discount at London and Liverpool was 8 per cent. for the best paper which had only 60 days to run, he could not expect that this temporising policy would be suc-

cessful, and he thought that he would have to call on the Bank to advance him money for the payment of the dividends next quarter. He had hoped that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been prepared with some more substantial plan than the present for the relief of the money-market. For his own part he saw no chance of any great improvement likely to occur at present. When he reflected that the price of wheat had risen that day to 120s. a quarter; that the stocks of all produce, both home and foreign, were unusually low; that the imports of the last year had fallen off £10,000,000 sterling as compared with those of the previous year, and that the exports of gold were greater than they had ever been on any former occasion, he could not see how they could, without legislative interference, produce the return of the ebb-tide of bullion which was so much required. The case, then, of the country was such as to require prompt and immediate remedies. We were brought to a dead lock for want of money, whilst the credit of the Bank was good, and whilst it had £9,000,000 of gold in its coffers, which the Bank Act forbade it to touch. Ought we not, then, to remove those restrictions on our currency, by which we were now starving the trade and ruining the credit of the country—nay more, by which we were starving the bellies of our people, in order to feed with gold that idol of some parties, the Bank Charter Act? If then a free trade and a restricted currency could not work together, let us be quick in repealing this obnoxious measure. We had seen the fatal effects of leaving the people in Ireland to supply themselves, and of letting trade work round in that country. There was apprehension now; in a few weeks it might be turned into sad reality, for we were getting nearer and nearer every day to the situation in which the restrictions of the present Bank Charter would become still more restrictive. He, therefore, recommended a supply of notes and of Exchequer-bills, as the best mode of relieving the present pressure. Resting upon precedents in the time of Pitt and since, he felt himself justified in calling on the house to set the Bank of England free, and to restore confidence to the commercial world. He would apply to the Bank Charter Act, which had not produced any good fruit, the language which had been applied to the barren fig-tree—"Cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?"

Mr. CARDWELL observed that, if this were the proper opportunity, he could make the House merry by exposing the curious mistakes which Lord G. Bentinck had made on the subject of currency. He wished that that noble lord and many others who spoke so glibly on the currency of the country would consider what currency really was, and would reflect how dreadfully the natural arrangements of trade were deranged by the artificial means which they proposed to ameliorate them. He then proceeded, at great length, and with much force of argument, to defend Sir R. Peel's Banking Act of 1844. We ought now, in a time of adversity, to be economical in our application of that currency, and ought to resist every attempt to tamper with the standard of it; for, if we departed from the just principles on which we had placed it first in 1819, and afterwards secured it in 1844, we should pay a double penalty for that departure hereafter.

Mr. T. BARING, Sir G. CLERK, and Mr. D'ISRAELI followed. The latter speaker made a fierce onslaught on the act of 1844, contending that it had failed in every object which it was passed to accomplish, and that it prevented none of the mischief, but much of the benefit, which occurred under the law in force before its enactment. Its failure had been predicted by all the great banking firms in Lombard-street; and he was sure that there was not one of them who was now ashamed of the memorial which they had presented against it whilst it was yet in embryo.

Sir R. PEELE would have been very glad if Mr. D'Israeli really had left it in the hands of the House to decide on the merits of the act of 1844, for the House was at present discussing the great principles and practice of currency in the most inconvenient form possible, and without the slightest chance of coming to any decision upon them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a proposition, of which he (Sir R. Peel) cordially approved. No sooner had he made it than Mr. Masterman came to the table and proposed an amendment, which he was told could not be put from the chair without violating the usual forms of the House. He hoped that before the House consented to take a new course with respect to the currency, it would not only consider the nature of the evil with which it was called upon to contend, but also the great variety of the remedies proposed for it. He hoped that it would consider also whether it was a small modification of the act of 1844 which was wanted, or whether it was not a subversion of its great principle. He then took a review of the present debate, and showed that Mr. Masterman, Mr. Brown, Mr. Newdegate, and Mr. Finch had each proposed a different system of currency, varying from a limited circulation of £1 notes for a limited time down to a perfectly inconvertible paper currency. In the course of his comments Sir R. Peel called up Mr. Masterman and Mr. Newdegate repeatedly to explain, and on each occasion was enabled to amuse the House by pointing out the fallacy of their explanations, and by exulting over their repugnance to admit their own statements, when they were submitted to the House no longer obscured by rhetorical artifice. He warned the House to be cautious lest in seeking relief from the repeal of the act of 1844 it should not be incurring the risk of aggravating incalculably the present difficulties of the country. We were now suffering from an unexpected scarcity of food—from a spirit of speculation which had run riot in 1845—and from an extraordinary failure of the cotton crop, which had increased to an unprecedented degree the price of the raw material of one of our staple manufactures. Now there was no country, exposed to the triple pressure of three such causes, which would not feel it severely, no matter what modification might be made in the charter of its bank, or what amount of £1 notes it might be entitled to circulate. He then repeated the declaration which he made on a former occasion, that, if experience had convinced him that the public interests required a modification of the banking law which he had introduced, he should be ashamed of himself if he wanted courage to

propose the necessary modification of it. But he wanted that conviction; and, therefore, he could not consent to propose any alteration in it. Had gentlemen considered what the law was to be if the act of 1844 were repealed? Were they anxious to restore the law before that time, by which the country banks had the power of unlimited issue, and the Bank of England the power to issue notes on its own responsibility, and without reference to the exchanges? In that case they would have no security against the recurrence of the disorders of 1838 and 1839. The main object of the act of 1844 was to ensure the convertibility of paper into gold, to limit the circulation, and to prevent the temptation of giving accommodation by the issue of paper, thus purchasing temporary ease by measures which must afterwards aggravate every pecuniary difficulty, and lead to those panics which inevitably produced a demand on the Bank for gold. That object even Mr. T. Baring admitted that it had accomplished; for he had told the committee, that on the present occasion there had been no panic, and no run on the Bank for gold. He utterly denied the position of Mr. D'Israeli that we had no right to criticise the proceedings of the Bank,—that Bank to which we had granted large privileges and a great monopoly, and which exercised so much influence over the circulation of the country. He then repeated, that he gave his cordial support to the resolutions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but admitted that he shared in the apprehensions with which some gentlemen viewed them. The rise in the price of corn that day was not an encouraging circumstance. The pressure in the corn market was not confined to this country, but extended to every other in the northern parts of Europe. We must, therefore, expect an increased pressure within the next two or three months. He was glad to hear, however, of the prospects of improvement in other quarters. He lamented that the difficulties of the money market were causing embarrassment to the manufacturers of Lancashire. If he thought that the relaxation of this act would afford them any relief, he would offer no impediment to it; but it was his firm belief that a temporary issue of £2,000,000 of Bank-notes, and an advance of money on Exchequer-bills to the same amount, without an increase of capital, would only purchase for them a temporary relief at the risk of much greater ultimate danger. He concluded by expressing a hope that we should be able to pass through the present crisis without tampering with those sound principles of currency which we had had so much difficulty in re-establishing, after the long period of their suspension in the interval between the years 1797 and 1819.

After some further conversation the resolutions were agreed to, and the report ordered to be received on Tuesday.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ARMS IN IRELAND.—On Thursday, Sir WM. VERNER drew attention to the increased use of fire-arms in Ireland. In his neighbourhood, 1,000 stand of arms had been sold, and £100 worth of ammunition; though ninety-nine out of a hundred buyers could not purchase a mouthful of bread for their families. He read remarks by the several Assize Judges on the general use of fire-arms. He closed by moving for a return. Mr. LABOUCHERE did not object to the motion; but he tried to remove Sir William's alarm, by citing returns which show that while offences against property have increased in Ireland, those against the person have not, and agrarian offences have positively declined. The arms are often bought by farmers for their protection; and altogether there is a good deal of exaggeration on the subject.—Return ordered.

FURTHER SUSPENSION OF THE CORN-LAWS.—Mr. BAILLIE, on Monday evening, inquired whether Government intended to propose any measure for prohibiting the use of grain in distilleries for a limited period? Lord J. RUSSELL said he was not prepared for the question, and, as it related to a very important subject, he should like to take a day to answer it [hear]. He would, however, take this opportunity of giving notice that he would, on an early day, move the further continuance of the suspension of the corn duties for a period of three months [loud cries of "Hear, hear," from both sides of the House].

THE HEALTH OF TOWNS BILL.—On Monday night, Lord Morpeth explained the intentions of Government with regard to this important measure. They had determined to propose this session only portions of the bill. They are as follows:—

To confine the positive application of the bill to the country corporate towns in England and Wales, to those towns which are the subject of the Municipal Corporations Act, and have already the regularly constituted bodies to which these new powers and functions can be applied. To allow other towns in the country to apply for the use of the same powers on a petition to the Privy Council from a majority of the rated inhabitants. To dispense in such cases with the provision that the Crown should nominate one-third of the commissioners. To have a separate bill for the metropolis. With respect to gas works, to give the councils or commissioners power to construct them in places where no gas companies already exist, and to contract with companies where they do exist. To enable the councils or commissioners to construct water-works where no companies exist; to contract with them where they do; and further, if they shall be so advised and authorized by a Government inspector, to purchase them compulsorily; the value of the property purchased to be estimated in the same manner as under the Land Clauses Consolidation Act, but enabling the purchasers to pay a fair dividend on the value so estimated to the proprietors.

The bill is to be reprinted, and taken into consideration after the Whitsuntide holidays.

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.—Alarming symptoms of discontent are beginning to appear, especially among the labouring classes, at the enormous price of corn. It is rumoured that threatening letters have been addressed to several of our neighbouring agriculturists, who are known to have large stocks of wheat on hand, calling on them to bring their corn into the market. The labourers of Broadland, especially, are irritated at the large quantities of wheat which have been purchased in that neighbourhood, and which is now stored in our quay.—*Western Times*.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE.

On Friday night a public meeting was held in the Farringdon-hall, King's Arms-yard, Holborn, of the members and supporters of the National Alliance for obtaining a full and fair representation of the people in Parliament. The hall was quite full. At seven o'clock, the hour of meeting, the chair was taken by

Mr. ROBERTS, who addressed the meeting at some length on the business which had called them together that evening. He was exceedingly well pleased to find that, in Crosby-hall, a most gratifying agitation was in progress [hear, hear]—one that it was their duty to support by every means in their power; and no means could be so effectual for that object as obtaining the proper representation of the people in Parliament [cheers].

Mr. EBENEZER CLARKE moved the first resolution, and said that he had great pleasure in meeting them on the present occasion. Some people seemed to be of opinion that the Dissenters had taken up their present position because they had been defeated on the education question. However that might be, they should hold out the right hand of fellowship to all who would join them in their reforming exertions. What could they say of the present House of Commons but that it entirely misrepresented the people, with very few exceptions? Need he say they had Mr. Duncombe [loud cheers], and Mr. Wakley [renewed cheers]? and let Mr. John Bright never be forgotten [continued cheering]. There were men who ought to have seats in the House of Commons, but who could not go in there simply because of the want of a money qualification. In fact, the one thing represented in that House is property, and property alone. If the House was constituted for the public benefit, as it ought to be, the corrupt combination of Church and State could not exist for a single day ["Hear, hear," and cheers]. The game laws would be instantly swept away, and the law of primogeniture would not be suffered to remain on the statute book [hear, hear]. Mr. Clarke concluded by moving the following resolution:—

That the House of Commons is not a fair representation of the people, and that a majority of its members have forfeited all claim to the confidence of the earnest friends of civil and religious liberty; this meeting is therefore of opinion that the time has arrived for creating a great national movement in favour of extending to the whole people their political rights.

Dr. EPPS seconded the resolution, and said there could be no doubt that this country was speedily moving forward to a state of agitation similar to that which existed previously to the passing of the Reform Bill. The only way by which they could obtain political rights was by so proceeding, and to satisfy the public of the justice of their cause [hear, hear]. Physical force was physical nonsense [hear, hear]. The moral power of the people was sufficient to obtain for them all that they claimed, and of this truth every man should be convinced. In illustration of the corrupt system under which they lived, the speaker referred to the condition of Ireland, where a State Church, representing a mere fractional portion of the community, was imposed upon the whole population [hear, hear]. He was glad to see in the list of the Committee of the National Alliance the names of men who were entitled to the highest respect, and who had been always prominent in the exertions they had made for declaring their political rights. Dr. Epps concluded by seconding the resolution, which was then put, and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. HENRY VINCENT then came forward to move the next resolution, and was received with great cheering. He felt, he said, that they were entering upon a solemn period in the history of their country. Within the last twenty-five years much had been obtained by the people. The Test Acts had been repealed, Catholic Emancipation had been achieved, and a limited reform in Parliament had been accomplished [hear]. Still much remained to be done; but they might learn from what had been effected how much it was in their power still to do. One thing which he would earnestly call the attention of the meeting to was this, that every act of the Government tended to the promotion of the principle of centralisation [hear, hear]. It was everywhere visible, with reference to the education question, which added to the monopolising spirit of the State Church. He was sorry to see that many of the honest working men had expressed themselves as favourable to the Government scheme; and they had as perfect a right to express their opinions on that or upon any other subject as he or any other man; but still he regretted that many of them had taken the views of the education question they had done [hear, hear]. It was nothing new for the working man to be treated with contempt, for they had been used to it; but the Dissenters were now receiving their share—and the Dissenters, mark, were the men who made the Whigs what they now were [hear]. Let them never forget that John Bright had the manliness to stand up in his place in Parliament, and boldly proclaim what Non-conforming principles were [loud cheers]. As Dr. Epps had said, the question now was, whether the time had come to make a decided stand for their rights; and there could be no doubt that there would soon be an election for a new Parliament; and the time is come for a grand national movement, as his friend the Doctor had said, for combining the national mind of every creed in one grand effort for the attaining of their just rights [hear, hear]. And the money, let him tell them, must be had for the working of the movement. Let them have but fifty thousand pounds, and they would flood the whole of England with lecturers, and with books, that could not fail to give triumph to their cause [hear, hear]. He would again remind them that the election was approaching, and he could tell them that the Dissenters had come to the resolution of giving their support to no man who would not vote for the separation of Church and State [hear, hear, and cheers]. But they had done more than that; they had resolved if fitting candidates did not come forward, that they (the Dissenting electors) could stay at home [cheers]; and he [Mr. Vincent] had last evening told them that the Radicals would support them in that determination [loud cheers]. Mr. Vincent continued at great length, and concluded amidst enthusiastic cheering, by moving the next resolution:—

That the National Alliance, for promoting the real representation of the people in Parliament, is worthy of the support of all classes, because it seeks to extend the suffrage to every man of full age; to protect his vote by ballot; to abolish property qualification; to establish electoral districts; to provide for the just remuneration of Members of Parliament, and to have Parliaments elected for a short and fixed duration.

Mr. WASHINGTON WILKS seconded the resolution, and said it was high time, if their principles were true, which could not be doubted—principles which Milton himself had advocated—if their principles were true, then it was time that they should be tested, and as the "Long Parliament" was now near its termination, that they should be prepared at the hustings to choose fit and proper men to be their representatives.

The motion was then put, and was also unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN then said that as there were no other resolutions to be proposed, he had simply to remind them that the present was the third meeting of the National Alliance. The first meeting was held in the London Tavern, William Howitt in the chair, on Tuesday last; the second meeting was held in the City-road, and on that occasion the chair was filled by Luke Hansard—a man well known to the public as the printer of the debates of that Parliament which it was now their study and their anxious desire to purify [hear, hear]. He (the Chairman) was glad to see that the Dissenters had thrown away their crutches, and had manfully come forward in support of right principles, which they all trusted would prevail [cheers].

Thanks were then given to the Chairman, and three cheers were given for the success of the National Alliance, and three cheers for Vincent, when the meeting separated.

At the meeting of the Society held on Tuesday last, which was briefly noticed in our paper of Friday, the Secretary, Mr. Dick, stated, that he had received a donation of £20 from a gentleman who desired to be known to the public as a "Friend to truth and righteousness."

The Secretary will be happy to issue cards of membership, of one shilling and upwards, to all persons desirous of joining, at the Office, 2, Bucklersbury.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, May 12th.

COLCHESTER.—MEETING OF NONCONFORMIST ELECTORS.

The Dissenters of Colchester have promptly followed up the resolution of the late Conference of the Anti-state-church Association, in reference to the duty of Nonconformist electors at the approaching contest, by resolving upon a course of action in accordance with the recommendation it contains. It being currently reported that a dissolution of Parliament would speedily take place, the delegates to the Crosby-hall Conference invited the Nonconformists whose names are on the borough register to meet at the Lecture-room, Lion-walk, on Monday evening last, with the view of ascertaining what amount of sympathy with the decision of the Conference might be relied upon at the next election. The room was well filled, and Mr. C. T. RUST, minister, was called to the chair. Mr. D. MORRIS gave a brief outline of the proceedings of the Conference, and having read the resolution above referred to, Mr. J. B. HARVEY moved:—

That this meeting, feeling it to be the paramount duty of all Nonconformist electors to act in accordance with the resolution passed at the Conference of the Anti-state-church Association, in reference to their conduct at the approaching contests, pledge themselves to vindicate their principles in the exercise of the franchise, by voting for no candidates who do not avow their hostility to all State interference with religion.

This resolution was seconded by Mr. John Chaplin, supported by Mr. Thomas Barrett and Mr. T. W. Davids, Independent minister, and adopted by the meeting without a dissentient. It is beyond a doubt, that a sufficient number of Nonconformist electors have thus pledged themselves to remain faithful to their principles to prevent the return, for the borough of Colchester, of any man of Liberal or Whig professions, favourable to Government interference with the religion or the education of the people.

NONCONFORMIST REPRESENTATION.—The following letter has been hitherto excluded in consequence of the crowded state of our columns:—"Sir,—Your report of a suggestion, made at the recent Conference, to obtain a Fund in aid of returning Nonconformist Members to Parliament, is, if I remember right, not quite correct. I am not aware that I spoke of ministers in particular, but of Nonconformists generally. There are, it is abundantly evident, able Nonconformist ministers who have no pastoral charge. Some of these would be found to be peculiarly qualified—but it would, of course, be inconsistent in Nonconformists to attempt to unite the two offices of minister and member of Parliament. There are plenty of men of talent and status too, among the great mass of Nonconformists, who, if they would but come forward, and do common justice to their great principles, would be found to be well qualified, not only by their talent and status, but by their property also—and who, backed by the great body of Nonconformists, directing all their efforts to the judicious support of some three or four such candidates, would be certain to attain this most important object. That something of this kind has never yet been done is justly a matter of general astonishment. The Roman Catholics are abundantly represented in Parliament; but where is the representation of the Nonconformists? Coming of an old stock of Noncons, and strongly impressed by the subject, I am constrained to follow up my suggestion by requesting, through the medium of your talented journal, that the 'Central Committee' will be pleased to consider me, in the first instance, a subscriber of the small sum of £5 towards a Fund for obtaining the Representation of the DESTITUTE Nonconformist Interest in Parliament.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, J. A. TABOR.—Colchester, 21 April, 1847."

ELECTION MOVEMENTS.

NORTH DURHAM.—Colonel Beckwith, a liberal of the first water, has started for this division with every prospect of success. The old Whigs are giving him the cold shoulder, but it won't do, he is the popular man here. But more next week. The Railway King will go for Sunderland; he has given them a dock, so he is all right. It is reported to-day that George Frederick

Young, the great London ship-builder, will oppose Mr. Grey for Tynemouth. Sir George Grey will not stand for North Northumberland.—*From our Correspondent.*

OXFORD.—Mr. Lockhart has resigned; Mr. W. P. Wood's chances of success have, therefore, increased.

BRISTOL.—The Nonconformists and Complete Suffragists of this city intend, it is said, to make a stand for their principles at the general election, by putting forward R. Norris, Esq. We trust it is so.

HORSHAM.—The Attorney-General, his son, the candidate, and Mr. Pigott, arrived on Monday, at the Nursery, Horsham, the residence of Edwin James, Esq., and, accompanied by that gentleman, are now canvassing the borough.

CHESHIRE.—The only names yet mentioned as likely to go the poll are D. Davenport, Esq., of Capes-thorn, and J. Cheetham, Esq., of Staleybridge; both Liberals.

BOLTON.—The Liberal party have determined to bring out another Free-trader along with Dr. Bowring; and Mr. Ainsworth is to be discarded on account of his vacillating and uncertain conduct.

MAJOR-GENERAL CAULFIELD, C.B., who lately contested a seat in the East India direction with Mr. Mangles, has recently visited Abingdon, and expressed his intention of going to the poll at the next election for the borough.

We read of numerous arrangements of Whig and Tory candidates for the Welsh boroughs at the coming election, and hope to hear in a few days of the active proceedings of some of the Nonconformist electors of the principality.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

In the House of Lords, last night, the Earl of HARDWICKE asked the Government if they could state the quantity of wheat which was now in the country, as well as the quantity which they expected to be imported. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE observed that the question asked was such as it was impossible for the Government to give any definite answer to. As to the import of corn, all that he could say was that, during the first four months of the present year, upwards of three millions of quarters had been imported into the country, the importation of April alone exceeding one million of quarters. Should that importation continue during the remainder of the year, the whole amount imported would be nine millions of quarters. After a few words from Lord ASHBURTON and Lord BROUGHAM, the subject dropped.

The other business was then disposed of, and their lordships adjourned.

In the House of Commons, after the disposal of the private business,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL gave notice that he would, on Friday, the 21st inst., move that the House, on rising, adjourn for the Whitsun holidays till Friday, the 28th, after which he would further move that, after the re-assembling of the House, the orders of the day should take precedence of the notices of motion on the Thursdays.

Mr. DENISON then gave notice for Mr. Pusey, who was not in the House, that it was the intention of the latter to withdraw the Agricultural Tenant's Right Bill.

Mr. BANKES obtained leave to bring in a bill to repeal the first clause of the Act 8 and 9 Vict., c. 66 (the Poor Removal Act).

Mr. EWART postponed his motion, in reference to the expediency of substituting a system of direct for indirect taxation (by Custom and Excise duties), other honourable members following his example, and postponing the motions of which they had severally given notice, with a view to removing all impediment in the way of the currency debate already alluded to.

The report on the loan (discount on instalments) resolutions, was then brought up and received; the resolutions were read a second and third time without discussion, and amid roars of laughter, chiefly at the expense of those who had been induced to postpone their motion, leave was given to bring in a bill founded upon the resolutions.

The Health of Towns Bill was then read a second time, after which the other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned at six o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.—We have news from New York to the 21st ult., from which we learn that M. Atscha, on the part of the American Government, had submitted conditions of peace to the Mexicans, which were summarily rejected. It was, nevertheless, believed that they would be, ere long, acceded to. These terms are as follows:—

The United States demand the 26th degree of latitude, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, as line of division.

The United States will pay 15,000,000 dollars for the territory so occupied, engaging themselves solemnly not to make any formal demand for the expenses of the war. These expenses are estimated at 13,000,000 dollars, and the United States consequently consider that they pay 28,000,000 dollars for the territory in question.

The United States guarantee that they will never give their consent for any territory of Mexico, or Mexican state, to be annexed to the American Union; and they will equally guarantee the sovereignty of Mexico, more particularly that part of the country that is situated to the south of the 26th degree of parallel.

The United States will place 10,000 men, infantry and cavalry, on the frontier line, to prevent contraband and incursions from the Indians.

The United States engage themselves to set aside all differences relative to their former demands, for ceded territory, foreign debt, &c.

An alliance, offensive and defensive, shall be signed between the United States and Mexico, for the purpose of repelling all European intervention in the affairs of America.

News from General Taylor arrived at New Orleans on the 11th of April, by the steamer Telegraph. He had not then, according to news from Brazos Santiago, engaged with Urrea or Canales. Immediately after the battle of Buena Vista, Urrea fled across the mountains with 500 or 600 men, and had not since been heard of. Canales was heard of twenty miles south of Cerraloo, and was pursued by Captain Grey and a party of rangers. Communications are completely established between Monterey and Camargo by General Taylor, who afterwards returned to Saltillo. It is supposed that Scott and Taylor have established a junction on a point between Saltillo and Mexico.

SPAIN.—General Narvaez is now at Bayonne, on his way to Paris, having failed in his intrigues to upset the Ministry, of which he is a member. Generals Rodil and Noguera have been amnestied by Government. The Queen was to leave Madrid for Aranjuez, unaccompanied by the King, on the 5th. On the same day the Chambers were prorogued, and are not, it is said, to meet again until October.

CHANGES IN THE FRENCH CABINET.—The Paris *Moniteur* announces the nomination of successors to M. Lacave Laplagne, General Saint Yon, and Admiral Mackau, with other appointments consequent upon certain changes in the Ministry, occasioned by their retirement. This announcement appears in the shape of five royal ordinances, appointing M. Dumon (Minister of Public Works hitherto) to be Minister of Finance, in the room of M. Laplagne, who refused to resign, and was consequently dismissed; General Trezel to be Minister of War, vice General Saint Yon; M. Jayr, Prefet of Lyons and a peer of France, to be Minister of Public Works, in the room of M. Dumon; and the Duke de Montebello, peer of France and Ambassador at Naples, to be Minister of Marine, in the place of Admiral Mackau. M. Guizot, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is charged, *ad interim*, with the direction of the Navy Department, until the arrival of the Duke de Montebello, now on his way to Paris from Naples. The construction of the Ministry in its present form was not, in Paris, deemed definitive.

TAHITI.

The *Times*' correspondence from Valparaiso contains intelligence from Tahiti by the French man-of-war "Lamproie." It gives the French version of the long-delayed surrender of the poor natives to their heartless invaders. The natives were literally starved out. The French obtained admission by an unguarded pass in the mountains, or by the treachery of a native, to the camp of the Tahitians, and surrounded them before opposition could be offered:—

It seems that, on the French surrounding the camps, the natives submitted immediately, without attempting the least resistance, and that they were in a state of actual starvation. Their provisions had been exhausted for some time, and it was only by the strict exercise of authority on the part of the chiefs that the people were prevented from deserting the camp, and throwing themselves upon the mercy of the French, long before they were surprised. They submitted merely to save themselves from death by hunger. This is admitted by the French themselves. When giving up their arms, the chiefs held a conference with the French officer in command. One of them began to talk of the Queen, with the view of making some conditions for her; but another chief, of greater authority, interfered, and stopped him, remarking that their adherence to the Queen had brought all their misfortunes upon them—that, being now entirely powerless, it was useless to propose conditions which they had no power to insist upon or of enforcing. Then followed the surrender, which was full, complete, and unconditional, without any sort of arrangement or pledge as to the future on either side. Matters were to remain thus until the arrival of the new Governor, daily expected, to whom M. Bruat leaves the future destiny of the natives, everything to be managed by him when he assumes the government of the island. The additional force which he will have on his arrival will be nearly 2,000 men of all arms. The surrender took place about the middle of December. The French are quite intoxicated with their success, and on the 7th of January they meant to celebrate the event by a grand *fete*. What is to become of the poor natives was not yet determined when the "Lamproie" left. It is fully expected at Tahiti that the Queen will also yield, more particularly as her husband has long been urging her to do so. The next bone of contention will be the Society Islands, all of which the French claim sovereignty over, on the plea that they were all along tributary to the Georgian Islands, now in their possession. The French Admiral has instructions not to insist on their possession for the present, and it is hoped that their independence will be acknowledged by the English Government, and acquiesced in by that of France.

ILLNESS OF THE LORD-LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, writing on Monday, says that the disease under which his excellency suffers has assumed so decided a character that a fatal termination may be almost hourly expected.

REPORTED RIOTS AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A rumour prevailed in Cork on Saturday to the effect that a serious riot had taken place on Thursday at Castlemartyr, when, if the report was to be credited, a large body of persons went to the Earl of Shannon's and demanded food. The police were called out and the Riot Act read. This, it is stated, was followed by the discharge of a shower of stones by the people, when the police fired, and shot four men.

DISTURBANCES IN NOTTINGHAM.—The stagnation in trade and the high price of provisions have induced a disturbed state of public feeling, which has not been equalled for many years past. At half-past four in the afternoon of Monday, a large concourse (called together by the Chartists) assembled in the market-place, to listen to addresses commenting upon the great distress the working classes are suffering under. On the meeting separating, a number of individuals attached themselves to a waggon which had served as a platform, and, followed by a large mob, drew the vehicle through the streets, entering every baker's shop, provision warehouse, and respectable tradesman's dwelling, soliciting bread, food, and money. Three men were in the waggon, who, as loaves of bread were given, deposited them in a waggon, till it was more than half filled. This visitation very much terrified the shopkeepers and the inhabitants generally. The men did not enforce, but asked for bread, consequently the police did not interfere; but the magistrates assembled at the police office, and took precautionary steps in case of any violation of the public peace. Some fears were entertained of an outbreak late in the evening, but happily none occurred.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English	1140	610	20			
Scotch						
Irish						
Foreign	1140	970				

No alteration in prices.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

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The terms of subscription are 6s. 6d. per Quarter, 13s. for Half-a-year, or 26s. per Annum, exclusive of the three extra numbers in May. In future all parties paying One Year's subscription in advance (to the Publisher direct), will be entitled to the extra numbers in May *gratis*, and ministers of religion will be allowed a considerable reduction.

THE Publishing Office of the *Nonconformist* is now removed to 4, Horse Shoe-court, Ludgate-hill; where all Communications to the Editor and Publisher should in future be addressed. All remittances and post-office orders should be made payable to Charles Miall.

The extra number of the *Nonconformist* for Monday next will contain full reports of the annual meetings of the British and Foreign School, Irish Evangelical, London and Colonial Missionary Societies, and of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, &c., and will be forwarded to any part of the country on the remittance of six postage stamps.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We must apologize to our numerous correspondents for apparent inattention for some two or three weeks past. We trust they will have perceived that the important public matters which have crowded our columns precluded the possibility of our inserting any correspondence but such as was very brief and very urgent; and we can assure them, that our own engagements have been so pressing and various, as to leave us no time for noticing them, as we otherwise should have done. After the present week we hope to be relieved somewhat from the heavy pressure laid upon us.

Our Bridgewater correspondent must really excuse us from complying with his request. We are already overwhelmed with urgent engagements.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of £1 1s. from John Hoppe, Esq., Bishopsgate-street, as an annual subscription to the British Anti-state-church Association. Also 10s. from Mr. L. Farran, Grantham, for the relief of the distress in Ireland, on account of the Congregational Union of Ireland.

Mr. Froud, of Dorchester, will be glad to meet with the following Nos. of the First Volume of the *Nonconformist*, to complete his set; Nos. 1, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21 and 31.

ERRATA.—In our report of the first day's proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference, "Mr. Chapman, of Chatham," is represented as having seconded a resolution moved by Mr. Stephen, of Manchester. It should have been "Mr. Jones, of Chatham."—In the third day's sitting, Mr. Pryce, of Gravesend, is mentioned as having seconded the omission, first of Mr. Gilpin, and, secondly, of Mr. Stephen, from the list of the Executive Committee, while, in point of fact, he did not support either resolution.

•• We regret that, in consequence of unavoidable difficulties attending the working off of our impression of Friday last, chiefly arising from the large size of the sheet, we were unable to obtain a sufficient number of copies in time to supply all our subscribers by that evening's post. This will account, also, for the imperfections that are, in many cases, observable in the appearance of the paper.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1847.

SUMMARY.

THE prominent event of the week—that, at least, in which our readers will probably take the liveliest interest—is the assembling of the Anti-state-church Conference, in Crosby-hall, upon the report of the proceedings of which, given in our Friday's number, we were prevented from making a single comment. The report will speak for itself as to the substantial business transacted, and, perhaps, no description of ours could do justice to the spirit which pervaded the great body of delegates. Coming so immediately in the rear of the recent Educational Conference, it might have been anticipated that it would fall short in its numbers—for every such gathering entails heavy expenses, and the same parties in both cases would be called upon to bear them; and, yet, in the number of delegates as well as, in their constancy of attendance, their evident interest, their high tone of feeling, and their determination to abide by principle in opposition to the seductions of a temporary expediency—the Triennial Conference of the British Anti-state-church Association was as impressive a demonstration as any we had hoped to witness. It is complained of by the *Record* that there was anything but a calm and lucid exposition of our principles, and that the time occupied by the sittings was devoted principally to consultations as to the mode of action to be pursued at the coming general election. The *Record* probably has forgotten, or, perhaps, never cared to know, that the course which he had anticipated, and which he regards as most becoming, was taken at the Conference of 1844. There is a time for all things—a time to lay the foundation, and a time to rear upon it a superstructure—a time to expound principles, and a time to devise how we may best act upon them. We have been three years engaged almost exclusively in doing the first—why should the *Record* complain that now, at length, we set resolutely to work in attempting the last? Is it the nature of the action determined upon that offends him? If so, we have some hope that it may prove effective—for Churchmen seldom cry out until they spy danger. To our mind, the line

of proceeding adopted by the Conference eminently befitted the occasion, and, had they acted in conformity with the *Record's* judgment of the mode in which they should have acted, the delegates might as well have remained at home.

In the aggregate meeting held at Finsbury Chapel, on Thursday evening, we have further proof, if proof were wanting, of the rapid progress of the Association in public favour and confidence. The spacious building was crowded from floor to ceiling with the most enthusiastic audience; and nothing elicited so hearty a response as those exhortations of the speakers which moved to a consistent and unflinching exhibition of principle at the hustings and in the poll-booth. If the tone of such a meeting might be regarded as indicating the general state of feeling amongst Protestant Dissenters, the next general election may be expected to bear an emphatic testimony to Anti-state-church principles, such as will strike dismay into the minds of the statesmen of all parties whose favourite policy it is to convert the teachers of religion into a spiritual police.

We rejoice to know that the feeling thus displayed is not evaporating in mere momentary excitement. Several boroughs, in which Dissenting electors are numerous and powerful, are already on the alert, inquiring for suitable candidates, and taking active measures to bring on a contest in which they may record their votes in opposition to all State interference with religion. A temporary committee, we understand, has been formed in London, with a view to facilitate these electioneering movements; and every disposition apparently exists to stand utterly aloof from all mere party contests, and to take up our ground, once for all, upon our distinctive principles. Such hopeful indications as those which now present themselves on every hand we have never seen; and great will be our disappointment if they are not followed by practical results of a corresponding character.

The Whigs probably are aware of their danger, and will strengthen themselves by an early alliance with the Peel section of the Conservative party. It is rumoured that Lord Morpeth is to go to Ireland as viceroy, to avoid the prospect of a defeat in the West Riding, that Sir James Graham is to be despatched to India, and Lord Lincoln and Mr. Sidney Herbert to constitute part of the Government staff. Such a coalition, backed by the influence of the Established Church, to whose demands the Whigs have succumbed, will probably secure for Lord John Russell a large majority in the next Parliament; but it will be a majority of which he cannot long continue to be the natural leader. He has fallen into the same error as Peel, but in an opposite direction; and in all likelihood he will have, as Peel had, to recant, or to be dismissed with ignominy from his post. A leader who can hardly govern even his own party, and who never takes office but to ruin their prospects and reputation, is not very likely to sway to his purposes, and much less to his crotchets, a body of supporters consisting of men of almost every variety of political opinion, bound to him as a leader by no ties of personal attachment.

Before we proceed to Parliamentary matters, it may be proper to notice the physical and commercial aspects of the times. The immense rise in the price of corn—the panic in the money-market—the breaking out of malignant fever in some of the great towns of the north—the suspension to a large extent of manufacturing industry—the backwardness of the season—and the evident incapacity of our rulers to deal with the emergencies of the present crisis—suffice to awaken serious alarm in the stoutest bosom, and point to the probability of national trials and calamities, not far distant, severer than any under which we have yet groaned. Pity it is that at such a time, incapable men should be in possession of the helm of state. True, no human sagacity could avail entirely to avert the gloom which impends over us. But when passing through a storm which makes every timber of the vessel quiver, it is some alleviation of our fears—some slight consolation in anxiety, to know that we are under the guidance of a quick eye, an undistracted mind, and an unflinching heart. Such, alas! is not our case, and, perhaps, we are forced into this position in order that we may learn the lesson so important to be studied—that in seasons of national distress our hope is not in men, but in the over-ruling goodness of an all-gracious Providence. It will be seen, by a reference to our Parliamentary report, that a further suspension of the Corn-laws for three months is proposed by the Government.

We may now despatch Parliamentary business in a few short sentences. A bill for the registration of voters, introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Walpole, an exponent, we believe, of the views of the Protectionist committee appointed to inquire into the county registration system of the League, has been read a second time without opposition. The machinery it proposes is plausible enough, but the bill comes from a wrong quarter to expect from it any valid extension of the franchise. The *Times* exposes a portion of the scheme in the following emphatic words:—

If the bill passes into a law, any monied land proprietor can secure a county by sending in claims for all his hedgers and ditchers, servants and dependent tenants, setting forth in their claim a semblance of a qualification, when, in reality, they have not a shadow of a real title to one. They can only be objected to in one polling district out of perhaps eight or ten in the county, so that nothing will be more easy than to select a hundred or a thousand or two names of persons who can be made to vote at an election and send in a claim for them in two or more polling districts. The overseers must insert the names in the list of voters under a penalty of £100, and then only in one out of three polling districts can they be

objected to unless you have three objectors, and deposit 7s. 6d., and pay 1s. 6d. for postage, and also run the risk of paying £6 costs to expunge one voter from the list. Formerly 1s. was paid with the claim, which was some check upon fictitious claims, but that was thought to be restricting the franchise. The bill is objectionable in making an invidious distinction of voters, "the proved voter" and the registered voter. Surely every person should in the first place prove his qualification, and then when once rightly on the register, the laws now in force are quite sufficient to protect the voter from annoyance.

Mr. Bright has obtained a committee to inquire into the progress of the cultivation of cotton in India—a subject of far larger importance than a hasty glance at it would lead one to imagine.

Ireland has had the larger share of the attention of the Legislature during the past week—Ireland, and a subject closely connected with it—the monetary condition of this country. The Lords, under the guidance of Lords Monteagle and Stanley, have shown their disposition to strike at the principle of the Poor Relief Bill, and at the same time their fear to strike home. Some confusion has been introduced into the provisions of the measure by the successful attempt of the former noble lord to make all the clauses relating to out-door relief temporary in their authority, which confusion he is now attempting to rectify. Lord Stanley aimed at destroying the whole value of the bill, so far as it can be considered valuable, by throwing the burden of the poor-rates upon the tenants. Herein, however, he failed, not for want of will on the part of his followers to affirm his proposal, but in consequence of their knowledge that his success would be the signal for the retirement of the Whig Ministry. The bill, therefore, will probably pass, and the immediate dissolution of Parliament, prognosticated some days ago with no little confidence, may haply be prevented.

Earl Grey's notable scheme, proposing a compulsory law with respect both to education and labour upon the emancipated negroes of Jamaica, has kindled a determined opposition from the friends of freedom throughout the island. It will be seen from our correspondent's letter, given elsewhere, that public meetings have been held throughout the island, to protest against this flagrant violation of the rights of the people. We do trust that they will be heartily supported in their opposition by the press and friends of the anti-slavery cause in this country. The measure of the Colonial Secretary proposes a general tax for carrying out a system not only of secular, but religious education—thus involving the principle of another religious establishment, though the one already in existence is already sufficiently oppressive. "The children," writes a correspondent, "may be taken into the provision-ground, or cane-piece, but how are they to be induced to work, except by the power of the lash being given to the teacher? and wherein will this differ from 'slavery'?" The excitement is great, and will increase as the nature of the contemplated measure becomes more widely known. All our efforts in opposing it will, however, be useless, unless we be sustained by the voice of public opinion at home. The ignorance of Earl Grey, in writing about the cheapness of food and the dearthness of labour, will be apparent to any one at all acquainted with Jamaica. Yams are now 16s. per cwt., and wages are 1s. a-day. The rot among the cocoas is constantly spreading, and has extended to other articles of ground provisions."

MAKE READY!

"PROCRASTINATION is the thief of time"—and of a good many other things, we may add, scarcely less valuable. Death is one of the most certain of the events which will happen to us—and yet men continue oftentimes to postpone all preparation for it, even when already it stares them in the face. A general election cannot be many months off—and may be upon us within a month—but upon numbers of constituencies it will probably come as a sore surprise, and find men napping who ought to have been up and equipped. Rumour says that a dissolution of Parliament may be expected early in June, if not before—and in this instance, rumour proclaims nothing improbable. The Whigs have nothing to gain by delay—and, of course, they will do the best for themselves which opportunity puts within their reach. The more prompt they are, the greater their chances of success. They will steal a march upon us if possible. Not a moment, therefore, is to be lost. We must do at once what we mean to do—or we might almost as well resolve not to attempt it all.

And what is to be done?—we mean, by Dissenting electors. Much, we reply—something that may tell immediately—something that will tell with still greater power remotely. But in every case it must be instantly set about.

There is here and there a borough—they may be very few—in which there exists a reasonable prospect of carrying a candidate of thorough Anti-state-church principles. In such places, the man ought to have been already secured, and a committee organised for compassing his return. But if this has not been done, it should be instantly attended to. Nor are suitable candidates, perhaps, so scarce, as, at first sight, one would be apt to imagine. A little earnest inquiry in the right direction, may, we venture to surmise, arrive at satisfactory conclusions. At all events, the matter should not be given up as a thing to be despaired of. Whilst there remains a single friend to put a question to, let us beware of sitting down in a kind of desponding resignation to our fate.

Many constituencies there are in which Dissenters

make a considerable minority—a minority whom a reverse or two would conduct to victory. Actual defeat, we know, is unpleasant, and many will avoid a contest in which they *must be beaten*. It is difficult to advise in such a case—for the wisdom of the advice must depend very much upon an accurate knowledge of local circumstances. What we should set before us as the object to be aimed at is, to produce the deepest possible moral impression upon the public mind in favour of our principles, and of our own conviction of their vast importance. In some instances this may be better accomplished by putting forward a candidate and recording for him our votes—in others by standing wholly aloof, and leaving political factions to fight out their own battle. Early steps, however, should be taken, to consult the general feeling, and to determine upon the line of conduct to be pursued. Either alternative, if it is to be made effective as a demonstration, will entail upon its active supporters some amount of labour—both will require some electoral organisation. In the first, there should be a canvass for the man representing the principle—in the last, for the principle, unrepresented by a man. Neither plan can be carried out without a committee and funds, and the sooner both are obtained the better.

It is, we confess, to the dignified retirement by Dissenters from contests in which their own principles are not at issue, that we look, as most likely to conduce, at the approaching General Election, to permanently beneficial results. The resolution passed on Wednesday last, by the Triennial Conference of the British Anti-state-church Association, has our heartiest approval. What Nonconforming electors do at the poll-booth should unquestionably be done in vindication of their principles—of truths which the Legislature has trampled under foot in rude and ignorant disdain—and, if no opportunity is afforded them of recording their votes in opposition to the doctrine of State interference with religion, let them resolutely stand aside, and refuse to evince even the smallest *appearance* of interest in a conflict which involves nothing higher than mere party ascendancy, and in which, whoever gains, Christianity is sure to lose.

We attach vast importance to this particular line of conduct, and to the general adoption of it by the Nonconforming body. The plan of action is characterised by positivity, if we may so express it, and that is a great advantage in this age of mere negations. It exalts the truth about which it concerns itself, not to eminence of station merely, but to an absolute throne—makes it the star of our political enterprise and fortunes. We may lean to other things—we may urgently desire them—but this we are to regard as a law by which our future vote and influence is to be determined. An intelligent apprehension and trustworthy appreciation of this we are to put down as a *sine qua non* in any Parliamentary candidate to whom we lend our support.

The Anti-state-church principle we take to be, as we have more than once remarked, every way worthy of this honour. Its essential importance is immeasurably superior to that of any other question of the present age. Practically, it includes in it, or carries with it, all that vitally affects a nation's freedom. So long as religious instructors of any denomination are converted by Government pay into a spiritual police, such liberty as remains to us must rest upon insecure foundations. Men wrong on this point are wrong in the very basis of their political opinions—right here, they are on the way to rightness on other questions. As a subject of intellectual speculation, it is neither novel nor unpopular. It carries reason upon its front—the very breath of its voice is argument. It enlists a much larger amount than most men are aware of, of religious feeling in its favour. It is a topic which Government has recently thrust into prominent notice. In fact, it must fight or die. The Legislature has aimed at it one blow after another, and threatens it still more seriously before long. Things have come to this crisis, that we must hopelessly be priest-ridden, or, to a much wider extent, free. If ever principle was *worthy* of being made a touchstone of Parliamentary qualification, to say nothing of the necessity of our position, this is. They who make it so may be called sectarian, narrow, and what not—none *will* make it so, we imagine, but sound-hearted patriots—and this is an answer to all who urge the folly of regarding any single matter of opinion as a turning point for deciding fitness for the legislative office. There are some questions upon which, if a candidate is wrong, his claims to our support, however numerous, ought to be disregarded. The maintenance of religious means by State enactments involves gross absurdities, ethical, political, and spiritual—and in our deliberate judgment, no man who cannot, now that the question is astir, come fully up to the mark on this head, is qualified to take part in deciding any of the great problems of the present times.

We beg to encourage Dissenting electors, as yet but half persuaded to adopt this decisive and dignified course, by reminding them that the overturn of the State-church system is an object of such unspeakable importance, so vast in its scope, so extensive in its bearings, so distinctly stamped with the seal of heaven, that to contribute in any way, by any service, however mean, to its accomplishment, is in itself a glorious reward. Would that we could so present it to their minds—that we could so fix upon it their studious and reverent gaze—as that, penetrated by a sense of its surpassing greatness, as well as its inherent excellence, they should value more the honour

of aiding it by their efforts than even that of commanding success itself. He who spread his mantle on the earth that a sovereign's foot might not be soiled, esteemed the use to which his garment had been converted a sufficient recompense. How much more reason have we to find satisfaction in the employment of our power and influence in the lowliest services, if only that Sovereign to whom we owe our best allegiance deign to step upon them towards his own benevolent design. Who are we, the most important among us may well ask, that we should be made use of in so glorious a work? Why, ages have been preparing this question for its final issue—minds have been guided, and events shaped, with a view to this for many generations back. It is the one point to which past history has been steadily looking forward ever since the Reformation, and upon which future history will look back with gratitude as long as time shall last. The national mind groans to be delivered from the bondage which oppresses it, conscious of its own degradation, but unenlightened as yet as to the agency by which that oppression is perpetuated. And under the direction of an all-wise Providence, every movement of spiritual despotism is a step blindly taken towards that moment, big with the highest interests of mankind, when usurped authority and simple truth shall close in a death-grapple, and the religion of the Gospel shall again be free. Never, since Christianity first bade our race rejoice in hope, have her subjects been exalted to a higher contest with evil. In this majestic enterprise, services in their own nature little lose all their littleness; and to take part in that combination which, by virtuous means, shall break the yoke of priestism from off the neck of nations, is enough, rightly considered, to kindle ambition in any soul, and to prompt any generous heart to cheerful self-sacrifice.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

(From the *Electic Review* for May.)

Let us now learn from our opponents. A general election is at hand. It will probably take place during the summer, and we must be prepared to carry our question to the hustings. The old distinctions of Whig and Tory must be lost sight of, and religious liberty, in its large and enlightened sense, must be our rallying cry. In the first place, it becomes Dissenters to withhold their support from all those candidates whose names are found in the Ministerial majority. They are clearly disqualified, in the language of the Crosby-hall delegates, "to represent in Parliament the friends of civil and religious liberty;" and no local interest or party consideration must induce our brethren to vote on their behalf. Whatever be the result, we must abide by this purpose. So far as our principles are concerned, there is no difference between the followers of Lord John Russell and those of Sir Robert Peel; and we must not, therefore, be scared from our rightful course by any apprehension of the electoral success of the latter. From our political friends we have received greater wrong than our opponents have inflicted for the last fifty years, and the best lesson we can teach them is to withhold the power of doing us further injustice. They can understand this argument, and they care not about any other. We wait to see whether the Dissenting electors of London, Edinburgh, Devonport, and other places, are equal to the crisis which has arrived.

But beyond this, we must seek a Parliamentary representation of our principles. Mr. Bright must not stand alone. We must send into the House—and our numbers, intelligence, and wealth enable us to do so—men who understand and value our principles, and who are equal to their advocacy. We do not underrate the value of wealth and social status. Wherever these are found in unison with the higher qualities required, let them by all means be retained. Such men are needful in such an assembly as the Commons' House, to give weight and importance to the representatives of any principle. But let not our attention be limited to such. There is another class which should be associated with them—men of transparent rectitude and of clear intellects, conversant with public life, of free speech, and of intense devotion to religious voluntarism. Such men may become the teachers of the nation, through the medium of the debates of Parliament; and, if equal to the post, would ultimately command the attention of the House from the power they exercised without it. The two classes are alike needful, and would work in perfect harmony. We rejoice that a Parliamentary committee has been formed for the purpose of promoting this most desirable issue, and shall take an early opportunity of calling attention to its labours.

(From the *Leeds Mercury*.)

We believe there is no doubt that the Dissenters constitute the bulk of the Liberal electors in many of the boroughs. It is, therefore, a most reasonable thing that they should demand to have representatives either of their own bodies, or at least who will understand and will support their principles. The gross ignorance of those principles evinced in the recent debates in the House of Commons, makes it necessary for their own protection that they should act in this manner. We hope that several Dissenters may offer themselves at the approaching elections, and that their just claims will be admitted by the Liberal constituencies. Should their claims not be admitted by the whole party, the Dissenting electors will still support them, considering the temporary success of this or that political party a matter of small importance (though no men can be more staunch in their adherence to Liberal politics than the Dissenters) compared with the duty of opposing, on this and on every occasion, the Government measure of education, and the principles on which it rests. If the result should be to remove Lord John Russell from power, it would, perhaps, be the best thing that could happen, as there is no Minister in either House who seems more hostile to the voluntary principle, or more favourable to the wretched continental policy of bringing all religions and all education under State pay.

(From the *Manchester Times*.)

The Yorkshire Nonconformists have taken their stand boldly but quietly. Finding their earnest appeals to their representatives utterly disregarded, they have, after calmly and deliberately considering what should be their future course, resolved that they will not support any candidate who does not pay respect to their principle, that it is not within the legitimate functions of Government to interfere with the religious education of the people. The Lancashire Nonconformists will follow the same quiet course. They have before them the example of the Anti-corn-law League, the members of which did not make their great question a hustings test until they despaired of otherwise influencing the legislature, but who, when they came to their deliberate resolution, firmly adhered to it until they achieved the victory.

(From the *Notts Review*.)

When the time for contest comes let no man listen to party babble or party babbles—let no man tolerate the glib, but hollow-hearted and shallow-minded orators—the politicians by profession, who are inspired by no deep convictions, who are conscious of no influential faith—the hacks of the clubs, who do the dirty work of faction, and pile their ignominious eminence of power on the filth of bribery, treating, lying, and intimidation. Let such men be avoided by all well-wishers of society, heedless of their promises, their flashy and well-turned periods, their aristocratical associations, and aristocratical air. Let earnest men, who deal only with principles which are to them realities, be sought after—let candidates with a faith, and not a mere policy, be demanded—not party men, or men with titles or purses to back them, but men, on their own account—men, who conceive of something better than pulling down for the gratification of mere demagogues—who aim at building up a better England—at gradually and surely evolving from present wrongs, miseries, and divisions a social state, in which freedom shall find a nobler temple, and virtue an ampler range of influence, and joy light her cheering lamp by hearths where labour sits resting from its toils, and cot with palace beam in the sunshine of a common happiness, unity, and hope of a future advancement yet more glorious.

These are the men who are needed by the nation, be they called Tories, Whigs, or Radicals—men with deep feelings, broad and liberal ideas—full-hearted men, who will not raise a mere hard-headed economy above humanity, or conventional policy above principle, or worship the good of the few, but trample down the interests of the many:—yes, these men are now called for, and let each citizen regard it as his most solemn duty to find them, to welcome them, and to hail them onward to a victory over the tyranny of faction, and the selfishness of class.

ELECTION MOVEMENTS.

KNARESBOROUGH.—A strong contest is anticipated for the borough of Knareborough at the approaching election. The new candidates will be the Hon. W. S. Lascelles, and Mr. J. P. Westhead, the extensive Manchester manufacturer, both of whom stand on the Liberal interest, and Mr. Lawson and Mr. Busfield Ferrand, as Conservatives.

WAKEFIELD.—No final arrangement is yet made to supply the vacancy that will be created at the next election in the representation of the borough of Wakefield by the resignation of Mr. Lascelles, but it is understood that both Mr. Daniel Gaskell and Mr. Holdsworth have declined the honour of being put in nomination, rather on private than on public grounds.

BODMIN.—The Wesleyan electors of Bodmin have met and unanimously passed a series of resolutions, denouncing Popery, and decidedly binding themselves "neither to vote for, nor support any candidate who will not distinctly and unequivocally pledge himself to resist any further concessions to Roman Catholicism."

PORTSMOUTH.—We have heard that Mr. Sergeant Gazelee and Nathaniel Griffin, Esq., of the Northern Circuit, are to be brought forward in opposition to the present members. We have also heard that the first-named gentleman rather hesitates in his course, and that consequently a gentleman holding a high office in the municipality is to be put forward as the colleague of Mr. Griffin, upon anti-state aid educational principles. —*Hampshire Independent*.—[We have authority for contradicting this statement as far as Mr. Griffin is concerned, he having entertained no intention whatever of offering himself for Portsmouth.]

EAST SUSSEX ELECTION.—Mr. Frewen, M.P., has issued an address to the electors, in which he pledges himself to oppose all grants from the national funds towards the support of the Roman Catholic church.

OXFORD.—The three candidates for the representation of the city of Oxford, Mr. J. H. Langston, Mr. J. J. Lockhart, and Mr. W. Page Wood, have severally issued addresses to the electors preparatory to commencing their canvass. In his address, Mr. Lockhart expresses himself in favour of "the abolition of Church-rates; an alteration of the oppressive Poor-laws; the extinction of the unnatural Law of Primogeniture; the dissolution of the Ecclesiastical Courts; an extension of the suffrage; civil and religious liberty to the full extent; to which I add the bountiful principles of free-trade. I glory in the true principles of Christianity, and, therefore, conscientiously oppose all State religions, for the evils which must follow in their train will be extensive, and will exercise a baneful influence on the education of a free people, and stifle pure and natural intellect in the bud." Mr. W. Wood's address is an ingenious collection of unmeaning generalities.

REPRESENTATION OF ANDOVER.—Mr. Etwell has announced his intention to retire from the representation of this borough at the close of the present Parliament. Ill health is the alleged reason. Two Conservatives will be returned. One section of the Liberals support Lord John Russell, another section is strongly committed against the Maynooth grant and the education scheme. —*Oxford Herald*.

LORD PALMERSTON is spoken of as a candidate for Liverpool.

NORTH DURHAM.—Mr. Hedworth Lambton purposes retiring from the representation of this division, on account of ill health. Colonel Beckwith has issued an address declaring himself a candidate for the division. The following are extracts from the Colonel's address:—

I am a friend to civil and religious liberty, in their fullest extent; and shall at all times be prepared to resist any encroachment upon either.

I am in favour of an extension of the Suffrage to all Householders; of the Abolition of the Rate paying clauses of the Reform Bill; of Triennial Parliaments; and of Vote by Ballot.

I am opposed to the Endowment of any Church by the State, as being unjust in principle and injurious in operation, especially in this country, where there are so many religious bodies who do not conform to the Established Church.

The measure relating to Education, recently introduced by the Government, and affirmed by the House of Commons, cannot, I am persuaded, be regarded as of a permanent character. I object to any plan of education by which all appointments will be centralized in the hands of the Government, as conferring on the Government a dangerous amount of patronage; and I also object to the Clergy of the Established Church having virtually the exclusive direction of the education of the people.

I am prepared to support such a change in the Law of Inheritance as, whilst it shall tend to prevent the undue accumulation of Property in the hands of a few families, shall not be injurious to the advancement of Agriculture.

The Hon. H. T. Liddell, Mr. Lambton's colleague, will no doubt offer himself again; and Lord Seaham is also to be a candidate.

WARRINGTON.—Mr. W. Allcard, who has been requested to allow himself to be put in nomination for this borough, met a number of the liberal electors on Friday evening to explain his political opinions. He expressed himself in favour of "civil and religious liberty," an opponent of "class legislation," of the law of primogeniture, and a supporter of sanitary reform. He was opposed, he said, to the granting of any portion of the public money, raised as it was by taxation, towards the diffusion of any particular religion whatever [hear]. The money was contributed by all, without reference to opinion; all sects, therefore, without distinction, were entitled to any benefit to be derived from that fund, for educational or other purposes [cheers]. A resolution in favour of Mr. Allcard was moved by Mr. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Worrall, supported by Mr. P. Ryland, and carried unanimously. A committee to promote his return was then appointed.

MALDON.—Mr. David Waddington is a candidate, in the room of J. Round, Esq., M.P., who has intimated to the electors his intention to resign. Mr. Waddington is a staunch Church and State man.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—In the event of the Marquis of Worcester retiring from the eastern division, and contesting the western, a baronet and two other gentlemen are spoken of as colleagues of Sir W. Codrington. There is also a rumour of the Hon. F. Charteris coming forward. Five, if not six candidates are named for the western division of the county—The Marquis of Worcester, R. B. Hale, Esq., the Honourable Grantley Berkeley, and Greenwood Clayton, Esq., of Brierley Hall, Yorkshire.

IPSWICH.—At present it is not yet known what steps the Conservatives will pursue. Probably Captain Gladstone will reappear, but it is very unlikely that Mr. Lane Fox will have the impudence to shew his face here again after so long an absence. The candidates already in the field, on the Liberal side, are Mr. Wason and Mr. Vincent, both of whom issued addresses to the electors some months since; but as these gentlemen are "too liberal" and sincere in their advocacy of reform, it is apprehended that a split will take place among "the party," and other candidates, anxious to support a Whig Government through thick and thin, will be sent down by "the Reform Club." Since the foregoing was written, we have received an address from Mr. Rennie, who, in milk and water terms, announces his intention to offer himself again.—*Suffolk Chronicle*.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY.—Alderman Johnson intimated yesterday at Guildhall his determination to stand for the City of London, at the next general election, upon the Tory interest.—*Sunday Paper*.

REPRESENTATION OF BIRMINGHAM.—In addition to other symptoms of a rupture between Mr. Muntz and his constituents, the retail brewers, in public meeting assembled, have taken up arms against the hon. gentleman. They have pledged themselves to the support of Mr. William Scholefield, in the event of that gentleman offering himself as a candidate; and to give their support to Mr. Spooner, in preference to his present colleague.

REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.—There will be a contest for the representation of this University at the approaching general election, Mr. Estcourt having intimated his intention of retiring from Parliament. The names of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone and Sir W. Heathcote are severally spoken of as being the most likely to occupy the vacant seat.

FEVER IN THE NORTH.—The ravages of fever are extending in Liverpool; and persons in a higher sphere of life than the usual victims are falling a prey to it. Among the deaths, we notice those of two Roman Catholic clergymen, and a relieving officer recently appointed. Typhus fever is very prevalent in Rochdale, especially among the Irish in the low lodging-houses and cellars. The number of these people increases daily by new arrivals.

THE HEALTH OF TOWNS BILL.—A deputation from the parish of St. Marylebone waited upon the Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests on Thursday, to make representations against the Health of Towns Bill. They objected to its machinery rather than to its objects; as they admitted that a measure of sanitary reform is necessary. At the close of the interview, Lord Morpeth remarked, that all appeared to be agreed on that one important point—the necessity of a measure for the improvement of the sanitary and social condition of the people. He had no doubt that means would be devised in reference to the proposed measure which would meet with general approbation.

THE SCHEME OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN JAMAICA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Jamaica, April 5th, 1847.

The general aspect of our affairs, with the rising state of popular feeling on the threatened imposition of State Education, constrains me again thus early to address you. You are already aware that undisguised compulsion is ordained for Jamaica in this matter. Taxation is to meet the increased expenditure. Police, penalties, and prisons, having little scope for other exercises, are to join in diffusing the knowledge of industry to the idle and ignorant. Benevolence, having done so much, is to do no more. Whips and dungeons, having proved their efficiency upon the poor blacks, are once more to return to office; and, turning schools into plantations, are to make sugar and knowledge grow together, and sweeten each other. Such at least is the plan proposed. But public meetings have already been held upon the subject, and the people, as with one voice, declare *they cannot and will not sell their liberty*. [The resolutions of one meeting will be found in our advertising columns.] Distrust of the Government is a first-fruit of the proffered boon. And should force be exercised to carry the scheme into execution (rest assured force will be needed!) the offensiveness of the method will annihilate the object professedly sought. The law, as a law, must in fact prove powerless upon the people; first, from the violence with which it invades natural rights; secondly, from that hatred to all tyranny which is so deeply graven on the popular mind; and thirdly, from the utter insufficiency of the police force to carry it into effect. So that, in risking such a measure, the Government must sacrifice the gains of a century on the minds of its subjects. Alas! for Whig policy.

Still, with all we say, the people have nothing to hope from the House of Assembly. The gentry composing that conclave were mostly born petty tyrants. They are the representatives of property, not of people; so that the hope of Jamaica leans upon England and the English. I write, therefore, to ask if you will allow us to suffer disappointment? To the Anti-Slavery Society it belongs to see that no law shall compel children to labour even in "Industrial Schools;" and the enfranchised rely on their faithfulness. But it is the duty of every Englishman to see that Government keeps its province in ruling those to whom it has proclaimed liberty. Apart from the question whether Government should "provide" education, we make our appeal to universal common sense and natural feeling, whether Government should "enforce" it? Should the present threat be carried into execution, where are such things to cease? If a law can justly compel the education of children, can it not as justly compel the labour of parents, and decide its character, duration, and recompense? If Government have the right yielded in this respect, has it not every man's liberty by the throat? We ask English philanthropists to ponder the question, and decide without delay for their children in the West.

The "Income-tax" Bill has been lost; and I predict you will hear but little respecting economy in Jamaica for some time to come—I mean of that economy which will touch the pockets of officials.

"The Messenger," which was to have supplied the place of the "*Baptist Herald*," has not yet made its appearance, I believe for want of a suitable editor.

P. H. C.

STATE EDUCATION.—The following is a return of the number of petitions and petitioners against and for the Government grant for State Education, so far as published in the votes and the proceedings of the House of Commons:—

	Petitions.	Signatures.
Against any grant of public money in furtherance of the plan of education proposed in the Minutes of the Committee of Council on Education	3,528	479,938
For the grant	734	121,911
Majority against the Government plan	2,794	358,027
Vote in the House of Commons on the subject, last Thursday week:—		

For Lord John Russell's motion for the Government grant	372
Against it	47
Majority of Members for the grant	325

This is a fine exhibition of the sympathy between the constituents and the representative body.

NAVAL AND MILITARY BIBLE SOCIETY.—The supporters of this Society, formed for supplying sailors and soldiers with copies of the Scriptures, held their 67th anniversary on Thursday, at Hanover-square-rooms; the Marquis of Cholmondeley in the chair. It appeared by the Report that the Society had, during the past year, distributed amongst the seamen of twenty nine of her Majesty's ships at Plymouth, Portsmouth, Chatham, and Sheerness, 1,540 Bibles and Testaments; at the various barracks in England, 1,594; to marines, 311; on the canals, rivers, &c., 3,684; to merchant seamen, 7,631; and a great number in the British colonies, making a total of 16,071 copies. Since the last general meeting the income of the Society had been £2,559, and, deducting the expenses, a balance remained of £141.

A BIRMINGHAM CURRENCY REFORM ASSOCIATION has been formed for promoting the views of a large section of the mercantile body of that town.

THE QUEEN AND PRINCE ALBERT accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, left town, on Friday, for the Isle of Wight. They arrived at Osborne House about two o'clock. They are to return to town this day.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

PORTUGAL.

The *Times*' correspondent, writing from Oporto on the 3rd inst., says, "I have just received authentic intelligence from the camp of Marshal Saldanha. An extraordinary delusion seems to prevail there, as the Marshal and his officers imagine that the whole affair is at an end—that the Junta have no alternative but to lay down their arms—and that if they refuse to do so an armed intervention will positively take place. They assert that 4,000 Spaniards have absolutely crossed the frontier and are to occupy Elvas; and that Colonel Wyld's mission is to be confined to a peremptory summons to the Oporto insurgents to submit without reserve, and in which case only the Spaniards are not to act against them. In all this Saldanha forgets that the Junta troops are much stronger than his, and that the national feeling is so decided against Spain that it is certain the whole population will rise against an invading force. Colonel Wyld was hourly expected at the Marshal's head-quarters."

"The Junta here are determined to resist, and, if Colonel Wyld confines his mission to a summons of surrender, it will be indignantly repelled. The insurgents are prepared to listen to a mediation, and to accept the terms which have been agreed to by the Queen, but they are resolved to do so only under a proper guarantee, and the great difficulty Colonel Wyld will have to meet, should he be willing to negotiate, must arise from that determination."

SPAIN.

THE ROYAL QUARREL.—According to a narrative by the correspondent of the *Times*, the late reconciliation of Queen Isabella with King Francisco was preceded by some curious events. An ancient friend of Don Francisco's family undertook the task of opening the negotiations. He demanded from the Queen, as a condition of amity, that there should be an Afrancesado Ministry, and that the Marchioness of Santa Cruz should be recalled; also that Don Francisco should have a separate establishment, and a voice in the affairs of state. A hint was also thrown out, that in case of refusal there would be a public manifesto by the King, and an appeal to the army. The Queen's answer to this communication was an immediate order for the King's furniture and books to be removed to the chambers recently occupied by the Duke de Montpensier, as being a fit abode for one who listened to French advisers. The young Queen then declared, that the moment any attempt was made upon the fidelity of the army, she would mount her horse and put herself at the head of the first battalion she encountered. This evidence of decision seems to have had a very marked effect. The King at once gave in, and, filled with repentance, sent repeated messages to his royal wife expressing his submission to her will. The Queen, however, sternly refused to hold any further communication with him; and it was only when he went in person to implore for pardon that she relented. The King gained admittance to the Queen's apartment with some difficulty: during the interview, sobs and weeping were heard; however, a reconciliation was effected; for the royal pair issued from the Cabinet as friends, the Queen leaning on the King's arm. Subsequently it turned out that the King had refused to see his ultra-Gallican advisers, and had personally expressed a wish for the recall of General Serrano.

FRANCE.

OFFICIAL PECULATION.—In the French Chamber of Deputies a strange scandal has been dragged to light. The allegations amount to this. General Cubières, late Minister of War, undertook to negotiate between a salt-mines company and M. Teste, Minister of Public Works in the Ministry of M. Thiers; and, according to his own account, he actually did conduct a chaffering bargain, in which M. Teste bartered his official support of the company for a large allowance of marketable shares. A doubt is raised, however, whether M. Cubières actually effected the transfer of the pelf to M. Teste, or pocketed it for himself—whether he was broker or swindler! In either case the affair is little creditable to the official class in Paris; and they will do well to wash off the general stain as far as possible by a real investigation into the particular case.—*Spectator*. [The Government have instituted legal proceedings against General Cubières. In the Chamber of Peers, on Thursday, a royal ordinance was presented by the keeper of the seals for the trial of the General.]

PRUSSIA.

We have already mentioned the fact of a declaration or protest having been signed by a portion of the Prussian Diet, against accepting the decree of the King for the convocation of the Diet as a full realization of the laws made or promised by the late monarch. By accounts from Berlin, of the 5th, we learn that this declaration, signed by 160 deputies, had been received by the Marshal of the Diet, and that it will probably be brought under discussion.

MEXICO.

The West India mail-steamer "Tay," which arrived at Southampton on Saturday afternoon, brings some further details relative to the bombardment and fall of Vera Cruz. About a third, the south, part of Vera Cruz is partially destroyed. The persons killed and wounded, during the bombardment of two days, were principally old men, women, and children, amounting to about 400. The Americans account their loss at seventeen killed and thirty-two wounded. An American force of 600 men will remain to garrison the city and castle of Vera Cruz, and General Scott, with 14,000 men, 1,500 waggons, and a heavy train of artillery, were preparing to proceed to Jalapa and city of Mexico. By accounts received at Vera Cruz from the city of Mexico to the 1st of April, when the surrender of Vera Cruz was known, it was resolved to continue the war, and 3,000 men had received orders to march from Mexico, and 4,000 from San Luis Potosi. Santa Anna, who was again at the head of the Government on the 1st of April as President, had demanded authority from Congress to raise a loan of 20,000,000

dollars on any terms. When the "Tay" left Tampico on the 31st of March it was occupied by an American force of 2,000 men, under command of Colonel Gates. At Vera Cruz the shipping lay at Sacrificios, on account of the bombardment of the town; the Americans had lost about twenty-seven sail, principally transports, from the effects of a strong norther. On the 27th and 28th of March the wrecks strewed the coast for miles. The town and neighbourhood were occupied by about 15,000 troops, all of the most ragged description. The advance of the army under General Scott were on their way to the city of Mexico, and would probably reach it by about the end of April; it was expected that no resistance would be offered, and the Americans would be allowed to enter and take quiet possession. General Taylor was expected to make a diversion on San Luis and Zacatecas during General Scott's advance.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

An arrival from the Cape has brought the *South African Commercial Advertiser* of March 17. It contains, however, no news of any interest from the frontier; but the depredations of the Kafirs had not yet been discontinued. "Nothing definite," observes that journal, "has yet transpired respecting any measure in contemplation for the settlement of the frontier troubles. The inhabitants naturally watch every expression and movement of the new governor, on whom, with the great powers invested in him, the security of their lives and property is felt to depend."

WEST INDIES.

The West India files of papers received by the "Tay" contain little news of importance. Jamaica papers continue to speak of the prospect of the next crop being greatly abundant, and that the present crops are nearly all got in. [Our Jamaica correspondent's letter will be found elsewhere]. The weather appeared to be somewhat unsettled. Collections were continuing in favour of the Irish, and liberally responded to. The session of the Legislature of the Bermudas was opened on the 21st of April, by his Excellency Captain Charles Elliott, in the usual speech. After bearing testimony to the acts of his predecessor, he addressed himself particularly to the subject of education and the means of promoting its extension; stated his intention of submitting a plan for establishing a school for engineering, and general attainment and the commencement of a mechanics' institution. We subjoin one or two extracts from the *Guiana Congregational Record*:-

The anticipated arrival, also, of John Daughtry, Esq.—a gentleman so universally esteemed where best known—as Government Secretary, in the room of Sir H. E. F. Young, we regard as an omen of good.

The intelligence of Mr. Emery's right to be heard at the Colonial Office having been conceded to him at length—a right which he had never forfeited, and the withholding of which was a violation of every principle of right—we have heard with feelings of pleasure.

As a result of the simple question put by Mr. Hope, in the House of Commons, referred to in our last, the Trinidad Coolie Immigration Ordinance, which had passed and was intended for immediate operation, has been suspended!

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

SWITZERLAND.—We learn that a very well-known superior Swiss officer intends, in case of a breach between the Porte and Greece, to take to the assistance of the latter an auxiliary corps of no fewer than 8,000 Swiss. France will guarantee the pay, and convey the troops in steamers, in detachments of 600 men.—*German Paper.*

THE WEATHER IN SWEDEN.—The *Journal des Débats* publishes the following letter, dated Stockholm, the 27th ult.:—"We still experience most severe cold. All the numerous lakes in the neighbourhood of Stockholm, as well as the port and harbour to a distance of ten English miles, are still frozen, and the ice is so solid that heavily laden waggons can traverse it. Several peasants arrived in the market of this city yesterday, after having crossed with their carts an extent of thirty-five miles of ice. Such intense cold at this season is unexampled in the memory of man."

ROME AND ENGLAND.—The *Union Monarchique* announces that before the close of the year an English Ambassador would be accredited to Rome, and a nuncio of the Pope to London.

MR. O'CONNELL'S HEALTH.—Letters received in London on Thursday convey very unfavourable intelligence respecting the health of Mr. O'Connell. The hon. and learned gentleman remains at Avignon in such an exhausted state, from periodical attacks of dysentery, that his medical attendants have recommended an abandonment of the idea of proceeding on his journey for some weeks. Notwithstanding Mr. O'Connell's great anxiety to reach Rome, he has reluctantly yielded to the instructions of his physicians. There is no disguising the fact, that within the last ten days the invalid's malady has made fearful ravages on a constitution once so robust and vigorous.—*Globe.*

The *Semaphore* of Marseilles of the 6th inst. announces the departure of Mr. O'Connell on the preceding day for Civita Vecchia by the Sardinian steam-boat the "Lombardo." Mr. O'Connell proposes to proceed from Civita Vecchia to Rome, and, after a short stay in that capital, to fix his residence at Florence.

EXCOMMUNICATION OF A GERMAN PRINCE.—The Prince Archbishop of Breslau has launched the thunders of the Church against the Prince of Hatzfeld de Trachemburg and Jaschkowitz, for having committed polygamy. Five years ago, the Prince fell in love with the Duchess of Reichembach, a married lady and a Protestant. The Duchess got herself divorced; and the Prince, by means of a Royal decree abridging the legal period of delay, prevailed on the Lutheran pastor of Breslau to give the nuptial blessing. Failing afterwards in getting the Roman Catholic dignitaries of Prussia to sanction the union, the Prince went to Pope Gregory, and by dint of large promises to support the Catholic Church, induced his Holiness to validate the marriage. Two years elapsed, during which the Prince kept his word with the Pope, and received many distinctions; but, meanwhile, his love cooled, so that, at last, he drove away his wife, and obtained a divorce from her. At the same time he formed an intimate connexion with another Protestant lady, Madame de Bach, who had,

also, the mishap to be divorced; and, on the 6th of April last, he married her publicly, in the Lutheran cathedral of Breslau. On the following day, the Prince Archbishop of Breslau pronounced a sentence of the greater excommunication against the Prince on the ground of this second marriage, which is, indeed, a flagrant violation of the ecclesiastical law. The Breslau papers state that, on learning that sentence of excommunication had been pronounced against him, the Prince of Hatzfeld intimated his intention of joining the Lutheran Church; but that, by the advice of his friends, he abstained from doing so, because the consequence would be that he would lose two of his most valuable lordships. Prince German de Hatzfeld, brother to the excommunicated Prince, has seized upon the entailed estates of Trachemburg and Jaschkowitz, which, by their institution, can only be held by a person belonging to the Roman Catholic religion. The Prince means, however, to contest the matter at law, on the plea that though the Roman Catholic Church has given him up, he has not given up the Roman Catholic Church.

CIVIL WAR IN CHINA.—**FEARFUL SLAUGHTER.**—The following (from the *Moniteur Belge*, May 3) is a strange statement:—"The *Chinese Repository* gives an account, which could hardly be credited had we not positive proofs of the density of the population of the Chinese empire. According to the above journal, published by the American missionaries, a civil war, or rather feud, took place between the two neighbouring departments of Chang-Chao and Tseuen Chao, in the province of Gokien, in which 24,515 houses, and 668 huts, were pillaged and burnt to the ground, and 130,638 persons killed or wounded. It appears that wars of this kind are of frequent occurrence in the interior of this country, without the Government caring to interfere. It is not long since that the authorities of Canton allowed two villages to be destroyed; and the population murdered, as the question was only certain losses at gaming. The empire, say they, is too thickly populated; therefore, there can be no harm in allowing turbulent people to make room for a more quiet set."

The *Vienna Gazette* announces the death of the Archduke Charles, the hero of Wagram, which took place on the 30th of April. The immediate cause of death was pleurisy.

RELIEF OF IRISH DISTRESS.—There has been a grand ball at Florence in aid of the funds for the relief of the distress in Ireland. It was held in the San Donato Palace, handsomely placed at the disposal of the committee by Prince Demidoff, who undertook to defray the entire expenses, only stipulating that 4,000 dollars should be insured for the subscription. This amount was raised, and has since been remitted to the committee of the British Association, making, with £200 previously sent, £1,000.

The *Hanover Gazette* publishes a law which greatly modifies the position of the Jews in that kingdom, and renders it much more advantageous to them: their testimony may now be received in the tribunals with the same credit as that of Christians.

DENMARK.—A report gains ground that the King of Denmark intends to summon a United Diet, from the kingdom as well as from the German duchies, for the purpose of discussing the question of succession.

STATE OF THE CORN MARKET ON THE CONTINENT.—We have learned that bills to the amount of £20,000 were yesterday negotiated on 'Change, on account of the Government of Wurtemberg, for floating cargoes of grain, purchased to their order. The state of the west and north of Europe is every day becoming more and more alarming, and the letters which we see from those quarters express the most gloomy apprehensions.—*Chronicle.*

THE JESUITS IN BOHEMIA.—**PRAGUE**, April 24.—The royal government of Bohemia has just decreed that the Jesuits shall not be permitted to reside in the capital of that kingdom.

THE WHITTINGTON CLUB.—The half-yearly general meeting of the members of the Whittington Club was held on Monday evening week, in the great room of the Crown and Anchor tavern, Strand. A large number of members (probably from 600 to 700) were present. Joseph Toynbee, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair. The secretary then read the report, from which we make one or two extracts:—

Since the last general meeting in February, a period of only three months, 1369 new members have been admitted, making the total number on the list to the 30th April, 2,200.

The following ladies and gentlemen have severally accepted the office of Vice-Presidents, namely:—John Bowring, Esq., LL.D., M.P., C. Cowden Clarke, Esq., Mrs. Cowden Clarke, Charles Dickens, Esq., George Carr Glyn, Esq., W. C. Macready, Esq., Lord John Manners, M.P., Edward Miall, Esq., R. Monckton Milnes, Esq., M.P., Lord Nugent, Earl of Radnor, Frank Stone, Esq., Joseph Toynbee, Esq., F.R.S.

The total amount of monies received on account of entrance fees and subscriptions to the 30th April is £1,888, and the balance in hand and due to the institution is £1,596 9s. 9d.

The Council have taken the premises, No. 7, Gresham-street, on a lease terminable at the option of the Club, at seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years, at a rent of £500 per annum, to commence date from Midsummer ensuing, but free of all rates and taxes.

The Council have also been anxiously engaged in securing extensive premises, for which they have long been in treaty, near Temple Bar, and the matter only now waits for a negotiation, which is pending between the superior landlord and the Institution, relative to the renewal of the lease at the expiration of the term for which it is held by the present tenant.

Various business was gone through, and after a cordial vote of thanks to the late Council, the meeting was adjourned to Wednesday (this) evening, at seven o'clock, to receive the report of the scrutinizer of votes for the new Council.

RAGGED SCHOOLS.—Lord Brougham is to take the chair at the second annual meeting of the Lamb and Flag Ragged-schools, on Wednesday, the 19th of May, at six o'clock precisely. The meeting will be held in the large parochial school-room, Amwell-street, Pentonville.

IRELAND.

THE DISTRESS.

The following is an extract of a communication received in Ennis from a gentleman at present in Skibbereen:—

I have to-day witnessed a scene which will appear to you almost incredible. I entered the old burying-ground, and the first object which met my view was the head of a person who had been but recently interred; and, in another place, I beheld the arms, and, elsewhere, the legs, and, last of all, the bowels of a corpse—the dogs having devoured most of the flesh which was upon the frame. I proceeded only a few steps further when I beheld the shell of a coffin containing another body, with nothing on it but a few stones. This body will most probably be devoured by the dogs to-night. The former corpse had no coffin. . . . Fever is raging here at present to a frightful extent.

Speaking of the parish of Aghabalogue, the *Cork Examiner* says—

The population of this rural parish may now be estimated at 5,500 souls. Of this number, about 2,500—or nearly half the gross population—are in fever. For the last month the deaths have amounted to 200. The Catholic clergymen, of whom there are three—the parish priest and two curates—are thus constantly employed; the parish priest chiefly in attending on relief committees, writing and answering letters in reference to the state of his parish, and taking a certain share of the burdensome duties of his mission—and the curates in riding through the extensive district at all hours of the day and night, their time being divided between the saddles of their jaded horses and in attendance at the straw couch of the dying. On an average, these laborious men ride some 25 miles a-day in the discharge of their sad duty.

Destitution in the hitherto flourishing county of Fermanagh is rapidly increasing. At the last meeting of the Enniskillen Board of Poor-law Guardians a proposition to bury the paupers without coffins was gravely discussed, but eventually the resolution was abandoned.

THE GRAIN AND PROVISION TRADES.—The extraordinary high rates to which all kinds of provisions have attained within the last month have left the markets for home produce dependent for their sole support upon the wealthy class of consumers; to the middle and lower they are hermetically closed, and were it not for the abundant supplies of American grain and cured meats, there is really no calculating to what straits the two latter might be reduced. In addition to this it may be fairly stated that distress in the metropolis appears to have reached its acme. The gentry and professional people are, to a great extent, living on credit, and the shopkeepers and tradesmen are many of them reduced to the verge of bankruptcy. Several of the first houses in the city are literally idle, in consequence of which numbers have been thrown out of employment who had heretofore held lucrative situations in such establishments as have been compelled by the pressure of the times to reduce every hand that could be dispensed with. Altogether, nothing can be more deplorable than the present posture of mercantile affairs here, nor can any one tell when or how matters are likely to improve. A lethargy or panic seems to have seized all classes.

THE CROPS.—The weather has taken a more favourable turn. The fields already are assuming the bright and verdant hue natural to the season. The change has been most fortunate, for the recent severe weather had greatly retarded vegetation, and given a very sickly appearance to the young corn. The reports of the potato plant are still very encouraging; and in several districts, it is stated, that nearly a third of the crop of ordinary years has been planted.

TUMULTUOUS ASSEMBLAGE OF THE PRASANTRY.—Since the stoppage of the public works a dangerous spirit of insubordination has been exhibited very generally in some districts of the South, but chiefly in the county of Limerick. But for the exertions of the Roman Catholic clergy and some of the local resident gentry, very bad consequences would have resulted.

DEATHS FROM FEVER.—We regret to announce that the Rev. Simon Nelson, Presbyterian minister of Pettigo, has fallen a victim to fever, after a short but severe illness.—*Banner of Ulster.*—Dr. Macgennis, parish priest of Clones, in the diocese of Clogher, has fallen a victim to typhus fever, caught in the diocese of his sacerdotal duties. Lord Lurgan has also fallen a victim to the prevailing pestilence.

IRISH OPINION OF IRISH LANDLORDS.—The people of England complain of Irish landlords. You should hear the inhabitants of Cork complain of them. Saxon indignation is not half so deep and impetuous as Celtic wrath. Every citizen of Cork—and I have spoken to many, high and low—attribute the destitution and disease I see here to the landlords—to them in the first place, to them in the last. They have created, the townspeople say, paupers, and now they send them from the country into the towns. They tell them that in towns they will find employment and relief, and absolutely lend their carts and horses to perform their journey.—*Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle.*

THE YOUNG IRELANDERS gave a banquet to Mr. Clarke, of the ship "Victor," on Tuesday. In his own speeches, Mr. Clarke abstained from all political differences; but his hosts fell to violent diatribes against England and the English Government, with allusions to "American Independence." Some persons objected, which caused a disturbance. After the chairman and Mr. Clarke had retired the quarrel waxed furious; and it was only terminated by the dissolution of the meeting. The old Repealers angrily denounced this scandal.

THE GREAT BRITAIN.—The prospect of ultimately saving the Great Britain steamer has recently improved. Some of the compartments have been made so tight that in a late spring-tide the vessel floated; when all the compartments have been made equally sound her buoyancy will of course be increased.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.

On Saturday, a fancy fair, which was continued on Monday, Tuesday, and this day, was held at the new building, Haverstock-hill, Hampstead, in aid of the funds of this benevolent and truly catholic institution. Established originally some 89 years ago, for the reception of 24 orphan boys, the liberality and patronage of the public have enabled it now to receive 153 children. With the increase in the number of children arose the necessity for extended accommodation; accordingly, a spacious and elegant building, capable of receiving 240 children has just been erected at Haverstock-hill. The building stands on an elevated spot, the grounds attached to it are extensive, and every requisite for the healthful recreation and mental improvement of the scholars seems to have been provided. The bed-rooms, with baths and lavatories attached, are large and airy, and the workshops and school-room are on a scale of magnitude suited to the number of children to be instructed. The school was instituted for the maintenance, clothing, and instruction of orphan and other necessitous children of both sexes, of every religious denomination, and from any part of the kingdom. "Altogether," says the report, "1,277 children have been received into the school, most of whom, after receiving a religious, useful, and suitable education, have been placed in situations, in which they have, by industry and good conduct, obtained a comfortable livelihood, some have risen to influential stations in society, and many of them are now governors of the charity."

The accomplishment of all this good, however, has not been effected without considerable expense, and we find that the sum required to meet the expenses consequent upon the erection of the new building is no less than £7,000. In some degree to meet this heavy charge, recourse has been had to the fancy fair which we now allude to.

The fair on Saturday was a perfect model for such exhibitions. Under the immediate patronage of her Majesty, of the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Duchess of Gloucester, the Duchess of Sutherland, and others of the highest rank, it is not a matter of surprise that the attendance was unusually large. The crush at the fair at one period of the day was very great, yet the most perfect order, harmony, good feeling, and, we are glad to add, liberality, prevailed throughout the whole proceedings. There were about fifty stalls in all, presided over by ladies, and the amount of property thus brought together, the free-will offerings of the benevolent, must have been very great. One lady alone, Mrs. Archer, who presided with so much grace and tact over the stall from Scotland, displayed property to the amount of something like £200. Everything is to be seen at the fair. The electric telegraph is worked by the boys in connexion with a model post-office; and the process of potting is exhibited by an artist from Hanley, in the Potteries. A printing-press is also to be seen in full operation. Then there are specimens of papier maché goods, glass, china, cutlery, music, autographs, choice plants, tapestry, carpets, couches, and an infinity of purses, anti-macassars, paintings, and such like articles, the produce of the ladies themselves. The band of the 2nd Life Guards also attended, and played a number of popular airs in the course of the day.

In addition to the stalls from the city of London and its suburbs, there are others from Scotland, Nottingham, Leicester, Cambridge, Bristol, Norwich, Worcester, Brighton, Cheltenham, and elsewhere. One stall was particularly devoted to the productions of the scholars—an extremely interesting one; and another to the sale of a book prepared for the occasion, and entitled "Orphanhood." This book is most elegantly got up. It contains contributions from some of the most gifted writers of the day, and many very beautiful engravings, designed, all gratuitously, by Weir, Blacklock, Miller, Gilbert, and others, and engraved also gratuitously, by E. Landells, Dalziel, Nichols, Jervis, Measom, &c. Amongst the contributors to the prose portion of the book are to be found Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall, Dr. Harris, Dr. Archer, Agnes Strickland, Dr. Daubigne, the Hon. and Rev. B. Noel, &c. The book also contains a favourable notice of all the other institutions of the kind in the metropolis, which renders it extremely valuable as a hand-book. This has been prepared, and indeed the work has been edited almost exclusively by Mr. Joseph Soul, the indefatigable and obliging secretary of the institution.

The ladies whose names appear as a Committee for the Fancy Sale, have presented Mr. Soul with a gold pen and pencil case, as a memorial of his unwearied exertions on behalf of the Institution.

WHIG AND CONSERVATIVE COALITION.—A great deal of conversation, according to the *Morning Post*, has been going on in the political circles, within the last three or four days, about an intended junction of the Whigs and Peelites. Lord Lincoln to be Irish Secretary, and Sir J. Graham Governor-General of India.

THE COUNTESS OF MORNINGTON A PARISH PAUPER.—At Marlborough-street Police-office, on Tuesday, the Earl of Mornington appeared in answer to a summons obtained by the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, to show cause why he neglected to support his wife, Helena Countess of Mornington. Mr. Clarkson was spokesman for the Earl. He hinted at "extravagance" on the part of the lady; but abstained from entering with any minuteness into the causes of disagreement between Lord Mornington and his wife. He mentioned, however, that an offer had been made to allow Lady Mornington £800 a year; an offer that was declined, as she appeared to expect she would get more by means of a suit now pending. He stated that the defendant was willing to submit to any decision of the Magistrate—to pay whatever he might order for the support of Lady Mornington till a superior court should have decided to what allowance she was entitled. Mr. Bingham, the presiding Magistrate, said he could only treat the case like any other application from parish-officers against husbands; and he ordered Lord Mornington to pay the outlay incurred by the parish in maintaining his lady.

THE STATE PROSECUTIONS IN GUIANA.

(From the *Guiana Congregational Record*.)

The persecuting and disgraceful State prosecutions which in November last had been instituted against the Rev. E. A. Wallbridge, and which (in February) has been virtually abandoned—though still, from an evident sense of public shame, and dread of certain and signal defeat, boastfully threatened by the Attorney-General to be proceeded with—led to the conviction of Mr. Wallbridge's brethren in the ministry, that it became their appropriate duty to convene a general meeting of their respective congregations, to give a public expression of their sympathy with Mr. Wallbridge under the circumstances, and to acknowledge the kind interposition of Providence in so signally frustrating the cruel designs of his enemies. The meeting accordingly took place in Providence New Chapel, Georgetown, on Tuesday evening the 9th instant. At seven o'clock the chair was taken by the Rev. James Scott, M.A. The spacious chapel was well filled. An appropriate hymn was sung, and prayer was offered by the Rev. T. Henderson. After an introductory address from the chair, in which the marvellous character of the prosecution was admirably exposed, and the desert of the Attorney-General, instead of Mr. Wallbridge, to be prosecuted for libel, was pretty clearly shown, as well as the unmistakeable objects of the extraordinary prosecution fully exhibited, the following resolutions were proposed, seconded, and unanimously carried, namely:—

Moved by Rev. W. G. Barrett; seconded by Rev. C. Rattray:—

1. That this Meeting, composed of loyal subjects of the British Crown, resident in Demerara, whilst sincerely avowing the most devoted attachment to the person and government of her Majesty Queen Victoria, considers the state prosecutions recently brought against certain parties by the local government of this colony to have been a most unwarrantable interference with the liberties of a free people, as well as an unconstitutional attempt to prevent the free expression of opinion, and to bring the chief sources of religious and political enlightenment—the Pulpit and the Press—into servile subjection to the Civil Government; and that, therefore, this meeting does hereby, fearlessly and emphatically, denounce the proceedings recently instituted and persevered in for two sessions of the Supreme Court of Criminal Justice, against the Rev. E. A. Wallbridge, and also the threatening intimation received by the Rev. Joseph Ketley, of similar proceedings against him, as iniquitous and tyrannical, utterly at variance with the sacred principles of liberty, and entirely subversive of the inalienable rights and privileges of British subjects.

Moved by Rev. George M'Farlane; seconded by Rev. Thomas Henderson:—

2. That this meeting hereby declares its entire approval of the public conduct of those unflinching friends of liberty, the Rev. Joseph Ketley and the Rev. E. A. Wallbridge, and now tenders to these gentlemen its most hearty thanks for their devoted watchfulness over the people's rights, and their able and fearless advocacy of the great principles of civil and religious liberty, and this Meeting does especially express its deep sympathy with Mr. Wallbridge, under the excessive annoyance and expense to which he has been subjected by the recent prosecutions, its high admiration of his character and conduct as a Minister of the Gospel, and a faithful friend of the labouring classes, and its earnest hope that he may be long spared to continue his valuable exertions for the temporal and spiritual welfare of the people in this colony.

Moved by Rev. Charles Rattray; seconded by Mr. W. Clark:—

3. That, so long as the great body of the population is in no way represented in the Colonial Legislature, the rights of the people in this country will remain in perpetual jeopardy, and the friends of freedom may, at any time, and without any available means of redress, be subjected to harassing and ruinous State prosecutions, unless they prove recreant to their principles, and become silent spectators of injustice and oppression perpetrated under the sanction of laws which the inhabitants have no voice in making or amending, and, therefore, this meeting considers a reform of the political constitution of this colony to be absolutely necessary, in order to secure and preserve to the labouring classes the legitimate fruits of that freedom for which the British nation cheerfully and liberally paid the enormous sum of twenty millions sterling.

Moved by Rev. E. A. Wallbridge; seconded by Mr. J. R. Pieters:—

4. That a Committee be appointed, consisting of the ministers present and others, to correspond with friends in Great Britain, with a view to bring the state of things in this colony under the notice of the British Parliament.

Moved by Rev. Joseph Ketley; seconded by Mr. Fraser:—

5. That, whilst this meeting renders its devout thanksgiving to the Supreme Disposer of events, whose providence has hitherto frustrated the design of these State prosecutions, it would, also, record its grateful sense of the service which has been done to the cause of liberty and truth by those portions of the English press which have so ably exposed their true character, and regards it as due to the Editors of the *Patriot*, the *Anti-slavery Reporter*, the *Nonconformist*, and the *Christian Penny Magazine*, thus publicly to express its estimate of the essential value of their advocacy.

(Signed) JAMES SCOTT, Chairman.

The limits of this paper would not admit of a full report of the proceedings, which were marked with the intensest interest throughout, though it continued till within five minutes of eleven o'clock. This cause has been greatly and sensibly indebted to the religious press of Great Britain, the effect of whose full and anticipated exposure of the ludicrous character of the whole procedure was immediately perceived, so that it was at once predicted that the case would be silently withdrawn. The further notice which that invaluable portion of the British press will take of this conclusion of the farce will have the effect of opening the eyes of the British public to the state of things in this province, and hasten that change of constitution so necessary to the future preservation and healthful prosperity of this province.

FLOODS IN MANCHESTER.—On Saturday last torrents of rain fell unceasingly for some hours; the rivers became much swollen, and the lower parts of the town were completely inundated. The various manufactories suffered considerably, and bales of cotton were seen floating in all directions. At Little Island, on the Oxford-road, chiefly inhabited by the lowest of the Irish poor (where men, women, children, and pigs are found living together in one room), the effects of the storm were very serious. Hundreds of those families were early on Sunday morning disturbed from their resting-places, and obliged to escape almost in a state of nudity; while the pigs were carried down the stream. The household furniture of various kinds was also much damaged; but we are happy to say that no lives were lost.—*Standard*.

RAILWAY CALLS FOR MAY.—The amount of the calls on English, Irish, Scotch, and foreign railways, for the ensuing month, is as follows:—English calls, £1,638,366; Irish, £190,500; Scotch, £431,750; foreign, £442,000; making a total of £2,702,616.

SHIPWRECK AND DREADFUL LOSS OF LIFE.

The brig *Exmouth*, of Newcastle, has been wrecked on the rocks of Ballanavia, on the west coast of the island of Islay, with a frightful loss of life. The vessel sailed from Londonderry on Sunday week, for Quebec, with, it is supposed, about 240 emigrants, (many of them children), a crew of eleven men, and three young unmarried ladies, who were cabin-passengers. At night, a fierce gale arose, which continued for some days: on Monday and Tuesday, much of the canvass was blown from the yards, the long-boat was smashed, the bulwarks were stove in, and the life-boat was washed away. Instead of standing to the westward, where he would have had plenty of sea-room, the master stood to the east, with the hope of finding some harbour where he might put in and repair. "About eleven o'clock on Tuesday night, land and a light were seen on the starboard quarter, which Captain Booth at first took to be the light on the island of Tory, off the north-west coast of Ireland; and in the belief that he thus had ample sea-room in the course he was steering, he bore along. As he drifted near the land, however, and observed that the light was a flashing instead of a stationary one, he became conscious of his error and dangerous position, and made every effort to repair it by bringing the ship further to the northward and westward; and with the view of clawing her off the land, the maintopsail and the foretopmast staysail were set, and the jib half hoisted. The effort, however, was an ineffectual one; the ship soon got amongst the broken water, and at half-past twelve on Wednesday morning was dashed amongst the rocks." The master seems to have been a hundred miles out of his reckoning; but the weather had been such as to prevent all astronomical observations. "She went ashore with all her sails already mentioned fully distended, and after striking once was dashed broadside on alongside the rocks, which rose to the height of the masthead. She jarred violently against the rocks three times; and at the fourth stroke the mainmast went by the board and fell into a chasm of the rock." The seamen mounted into the rigging, and by means of the mast which had fallen on the rock, three sailors managed to get ashore; directly afterwards, the waves dragged the ship and the mast more seaward, and thus cut off all chance for any of the people on board. The sequel is but little known. The ship was grinding so violently on the rocks that she must soon have gone to pieces; and the great mass of the emigrants must have perished in their berths, by the thumping out of the ship's bottom. Of all the people on board, the three sailors alone escaped. They passed the night amid the rocks, exposed to a heavy fall of rain. In the morning, they managed to reach a farm-house some distance inland, where the exhausted mariners were kindly received. People hastened to the wreck, only to behold the desolation. Up to the Thursday, twenty bodies had come ashore, principally women; many were dressed in their night-clothes. The account of the disaster was furnished by two of the survivors, who had been brought to Glasgow.

The storm in which the *Exmouth* perished caused many other disasters on the West coast of Scotland. Numbers of vessels were damaged, and in several cases men were washed overboard or were injured by falls. One ship is said to have foundered at sea.

LITERATURE.

THE PERIODICALS (MAY).

THE public engagements of the last week have curtailed our time for reading the periodicals of the month, and our space for reviewing them. The most rapid indication of some of their contents is all that we can honestly attempt. THE NORTH BRITISH, No. 13, presents, in the "Biographies of Lovat and Forbes," and in "Results of Missionary Labours," two articles which will interest the reader, though the whole contents seem varied and valuable. We point our readers to the important advice contained in the last article of the ECLECTIC on "National Education." THE METROPOLITAN takes liberal ground on this question—witness the close of "Hamburgh as it is," and its review of "Tancred." The character of the author of that novel is well drawn. THE PROSPECTIVE REVIEW opens by a well-written paper (as it appears) on "Christianity and the Formative Arts." The references to the "Minutes in Council" seem to show diminished satisfaction on that subject. Among many papers in the NEW CHURCH QUARTERLY peculiar to its system, the most popular subject is a review of Bastiat's "Sophismes Economiques." HOGG'S WEEKLY INSTRUCTOR contains a portrait of Thomas Moore. We were delighted with "Stray Recollections of Sir W. Scott and his Contemporaries." With one or two of the papers in HOWITT'S JOURNAL we are inclined, but have no time, to quarrel. THE COMIC HISTORY OF ENGLAND exhibits the Field of the Cloth of Gold in a new light, and the first engraving in "The Greatest Plague of Life," by Cruikshank, is capital. GARDEN-FLOWERS OF THE YEAR (Tract Society) is of itself a bouquet, and florists of both sexes will find it valuable. Nos. 4 and 5 of ENGLAND DURING THE THIRTY YEARS' PEACE are before us. We will try hereafter to characterize it, as also to make more special reference to THE BAPTIST MAGAZINE—THE CHRISTIAN REFORMER—THE UNITED SECESSION AND RELIEF MAGAZINE—and our old friend THE EVANGELICAL.

Select Writings of Robert Chambers. Essays, Familiar and Humorous. Edinburgh: William and Robert Chambers. pp.

To no man of the present age is literature and education under greater obligations than to the author of these volumes. These essays teem with quick observation, pointed, humorous, and good-natured satire, fresh and pure sympathies, and true morality.

Sometimes, indeed, the plan leads the author into contrasts or illustrations too long drawn out; yet he is ordinarily fresh and always amusing. A thousand peculiarities of a very-day life are hit off with uncommon felicity, and he who wishes to become acquainted with ordinary Scottish life will find here its most graphic portraiture. We have seen nothing better than the paper introduced by the vignette at the head of the volume. Let it stand as a specimen:—

"NO CHILDREN AND MANY CHILDREN."

"One cannot well step over a threshold without being able to distinguish whether it belong to a house of no children or of many children. There is a primness and neatness about the childless mansion which is entirely wanting in the many-childed. From the steps outside the door to the innermost penetralia all is chill and cleanly decorum. The severest duties of the lady consist in repairs of slight derangements of the domestic economy, the re-adjustment of ruffled crumb-cloths after morning calls, the replacing of table-covers after meals, or the removal, from half-worshipped chimney ornaments, of single particles of dust which have no business there. If the house were something kept in a glass-case, it could hardly preserve a more toy-like precision of outline, or a more perfect exemption from all disturbing causes. Everlasting silence reigns or is broken only by sounds which otherwise would not be heard, such as the footfall of a solitary maid in a distant kitchen, or the flutter of the left wing of a favourite canary dipped into his water-glass. Everything which tends to derangement or to noise is banished. Coal merchants are given up if their wares have the least propensity to either dust or cracking. The cat's infant family are regularly distressed as soon as they improperly leave the maternal bosom. The visit of a friend's children is dreaded as a descent of Caterans upon the peaceful Lennox was dreaded of old; and the damage which a few minutes of them will occasion, although imperceptible to ordinary eyes, is not repaired in less than half a day. In entering such a house, the mind is oppressed with a sense of awful propriety. The tyranny of unimpeachable cleanliness comes upon the heart like a breath of hyperborean gales. One feels like the dove of Noah, as if there were no place whereon to set one's foot. You pass, awe-struck, among the reflections of glittering furniture, and fear to give moral offence to chairs and sofas by sitting down upon them. The very coal-scuttle has a kind of touch-me-not air about it; while the neatly-gilded brush beside the bell-pull seems to plume itself much more upon its service towards the ornamental than the useful. Twenty years may have elapsed since the setting up of the house, but every article still seems fresh from the shop of the upholsterer. The firm edge—the primeval shine—the Eden innocence, of everything is still there.

"Very different is the abode of the many-childed. If the tale is not told by a group of merry little faces in the doorway, it is pretty broadly hinted when you fall over a tiny wheelbarrow which has been left in the lobby. Should no such danger lurk in your path, you are sure, before advancing many steps, to see some trait of the presence of childhood—a parallelogram of cards designed to represent a house, with a doll seated in it—a thrown away crust—or, possibly, a single marble, a small object, no doubt, but one quite sufficient to establish the distinction; for long would it be ere such a thing could be seen in the house of the no-childed. There are, of course, mansions in which the younger members of the family are kept too much apart to allow of such palpable symptoms of their existence in the very entrance; though even in these, a shoe will sometimes be dropped through the staircase to lie upon the wax-cloth below—a sufficiently conspicuous betrayal of the state of matters in the upper floor; or an occasional burst of wild joy, or equally wild grief, will tell through the whole house, and perhaps to a certain extent beyond it, that young human beings are there. There are differences, also, in the degrees of freedom permitted to those families which are allowed to escape from nursery domination. A little fellow one day said complainingly to his mamma, 'This is not a nice house; in Sam's we can cut the sofas, and pull out the hair; but here we can't get any fun at all.' Mamma, in this case, has been something strict in her discipline: the state of matters in Sam's may be imagined. But, in general, there is something in children which defies the best regulations. They cannot move, breathe, or look, without doing mischief. Order flies before their faces; ruin follows their steps. In the average of houses, symptoms of their existence may be seen upon the walls, the floor, every article of furniture—the whole, after a few years, acquire a kind of dimness, as if of over-handling. All is rough and round. Instead of the everlasting neatness and unimpeachable cleanliness of the no-childed mansion, the utmost that can be expected is a temporary and partial good order—confined, perhaps, to a single room, and for an hour at a time—a gallant but unavailing rally against the prevailing influences."

GLEANINGS.

ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC TO VIEW THE NEW HOUSE OF LORDS.—On Monday the public were admitted to view the New House of Lords without tickets. The privilege is to be continued during the session on appeal days, namely, on Monday, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; on Saturdays admission will still be by ticket, issued from the Lord Chamberlain's office.

The *Hampshire Telegraph* announces that the Government have taken steps to send out Sir John Richardson, with his over-land expedition, to the North Pole.

The quantities of wheat exported from the United Kingdom to foreign countries in the month of April amounted to 131,000 quarters; and the quantity simultaneously imported, to 222,182 quarters.

Saturday week was the birthday of the Duke of Wellington, when he completed his 78th year.

A little church, of a pretty Gothic design, says the Jerusalem correspondent of the *Daily News*, is waiting for the roof, which, though of timber, is to be brought from England. The highest point of Mount Zion, crowned with an English Protestant church, is an interesting subject for contemplation.

A Chinese junk, *Keying*—the first that ever visited England—is now on her way to this country with presents for her Majesty and Prince Albert. She is solely manned by Chinese sailors. It is understood that a troop of celebrated jugglers are on board, and have been engaged to perform in this country.

Earl Fitzwilliam has directed that the wages of the labourers on his estate at Wentworth shall be advanced, so that they may meet the high price of provisions without any diminution of their comforts.

The *Bruges John Bull* mentions the occurrence of an extraordinary accident in the Madeleine Church, Bruges. "One of the priests, while performing mass, was suddenly struck to the ground by the falling on his forehead of the marble head of an infant Jesus, which had become detached from its body. Fracture of the skull and a severe wound were the consequence to the unhappy clergyman, who, after lingering in great agony, died."

A reading-room, well supplied with newspapers and magazines, has been opened at Paisley for the poor, who are admitted gratuitously.

It is said that, during the reign of George III., the national debt was increased more than £70,000,000,—about £25 a minute.

Active preparations are in progress to give effect to the ensuing meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Oxford.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—The number of statues already placed in the new Houses of Parliament is 250, and it is said that 200 more will be required.

SPLENDID DIVIDEND.—In Friday's *Gazette*, a dividend of three thirty-seconds of a penny in the pound is announced on the estate of Rice Harris, of Birmingham, glass-manufacturer. Thus a creditor to the extent of ten pounds would receive the munificent sum of one penny, less two thirty-seconds; supposing he had a coin of that value with which to give the change.

The Parliamentary reporters have contributed nearly one hundred guineas for the relief of the Irish.

A youth in Manchester, who had visited a penny show where a murder was enacted, has since become insane.

A proposal has been made to light all the English railways by means of gas-lamps, placed at intervals not exceeding forty-five yards.

According to the returns of the Government agent, the number of Irish who have emigrated from Liverpool to America this spring was 40,662.

The teeth of some antediluvian animal, says the *Bath Journal*, were last week found on the works of the Stour Valley Railway at Lamarsh, some of them weighing eight pounds each. They were embedded in gravel, seven feet below the surface.

We learn from the *Medical Times*, that within two months 211 operations upon etherized patients have been performed in the Paris hospitals.

A NEW SUBSTITUTE FOR CORN.—From authentic information, recently received from the province of Pernambuco, it appears that *Farinha de Mandioca* (or *Casava*) may be obtained in any quantity. This article forms a highly nutritious, and, when properly prepared, an extremely palatable description of food. In Pernambuco, it is eaten by all classes of people, without exception, and its price varies from £1 12s. 6d. to £1 19s. 8d. per imperial quarter.

In addition to 137 notices given last Hilary term by persons applying to be admitted attorneys, notices have been given by 167 persons of a like intention, making 304 additional attorneys in little more than six weeks. Awful announcement!

In removing the soil on a new railway line, the workmen have excavated through a Roman cemetery, about two miles from Portsmouth, and great numbers of skeletons and urns have been discovered, but all the latter have been destroyed by the "navvies," in the hope of finding coin.

At a recent meeting in Exeter-hall, Sir C. E. Smith said that the issue of demoralizing publications from London alone, in one year, exceeded, by five millions, the whole of the issues of the Bible and other societies—the relative numbers being twenty-two and twenty-seven millions.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Journal* says that Sir Robert Peel, on the evening before the day on which a large and distinguished party had been invited to view his pictures, went up to the reporters' gallery in the House of Commons, and personally gave to the reporters, with every mark of courtesy and cordiality, some two dozen tickets. With several of the reporters Sir Robert shook hands; and, on the following day, during the exhibition of the pictures, he was, at his special request, introduced to Mr. T. J. as, one of the principal reporters of the *Times*.

BIRTHS.

April 20, Mrs. JOHN COOKE, 1, Warwick-place, Bedford-row, of a son.

May 7, at Everton, Lancashire, the wife of FRANCIS ROUBILIAC CONDER, civil engineer, of a son.

April 25, Mrs. JOSEPH HUNT, of Overberg-house, Harlington, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

April 24, at the Independent Chapel, Newark, Mr. FRANCIS NEWCOMB HOLMES to Miss JAWTONNER NEWTON, of Fulbrook, Lincolnshire.

April 25, at the Independent Chapel, Newark, by the pastor, Mr. H. L. Adams, Mr. ANDREW SHIPMAN to Miss ALICE VESSEY, both of Barnley.

April 29th, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Bishopwearmouth, EDWARD MOUNSEY, Esq., of Hendon-hall, to EMILY, the youngest daughter of E. BACKHOUSE, Esq., of Ashburn.

April 30, at the Legation of the United States of America, at Paris, by Mr. J. J. Audebert, minister, Professor ROMEO ELTON, D.D., late of Brown University, Rhode Island, to Miss GOSS, of Hackney.

May 3, at St. Peter's Chapel, Leeds, by Mr. John Pickavant, Mr. WILLIAM TAYLOR, fruiterer, Leeds, to Miss ELIZA BELL, of Barnsley.

May 6, at Queen-street Chapel, Leeds, by the pastor, Mr. Thomas Seales, Mr. EDWIN CORK to Miss ALICE TANFIELD, both of Leeds.

May 6, at George-street Chapel, Oxford, by Mr. J. Spence, M.A., minister, Mr. ALFRED HINTON, bookseller, High-street, Portsmouth, to MARIA ANN, daughter of Mr. George CASTELL, tailor, St. John-street, Oxford.

May 8, at the Independent Chapel, Newark, by Mr. H. L. Adams, Mr. NATHAN FRANKS RICHARDSON to Miss SARAH JEFFREY, both of Lombard-street, Newark.

May 8, at the Independent Chapel, Newark, by Mr. H. L. Adams, Mr. WILLIAM PAWSON, of Barnley-gate, to Miss ELIZA STRAITS, of Cherry-bolt-lane.

May 12, Mr. JOHN AVERILL, of Birmingham, to CHARLOTTE AGUSTA, daughter of the late John FREEMAN, Esq., of Newgate-street, City.

DEATHS.

April 25, at the house of her son-in-law, Mr. Snow, Paternoster-row, Mrs. ELIZABETH TONKIN, in the 75th year of her age. Her mind was stayed on the Lord; her end was perfect peace.

April 25, in the 28th year of her age, CATHERINE, the beloved wife of Mr. EVAN JONES (Jenau Gwynedd) Independent minister, Tredgar.

April 30, at Necton, Norfolk, ELIZABETH, the beloved wife of Mr. E. GRIFFITH, minister.

May 5, LAVINA, infant daughter of Mr. R. E. FORSAITH, of Royston, Herts, minister.

May 5, at Sheerness, of scarlet fever, EDWARD, son of Mr. Edward ALDRIDGE, draper, aged five years.

May 6, at the residence of her daughters, the Misses Rowe, Waterloo-street, Brighton, Mrs. MARY LEWIS, in her 65th year.

May 6, at Clapham-common, aged 4 months, ANNIE, the only daughter of John HUMPHREY, Esq., M.P.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, May 7.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
STACE, ROBERT A., Sandgate, Kent, upholsterer.

BANKRUPTS.

ANDREW, WILLIAM, Duval-street, Mornsey-road, livery stable keeper, May 13, June 17: solicitor, Mr. Neal, King-street.
BRADBURY, GEORGE THOMAS, Ashton-under-Lyne, cotton spinner, May 21, June 10: solicitors, Mr. J. Abbott, 10, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, London; and Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester.

BUTTERWORTH, JAMES, Rochdale, cotton manufacturer, May 21, June 10: solicitors, Messrs. Cragg and Jayes, Bedford-row, London; and Mr. R. Hunt, Rochdale.

BURTON, WILLIAM, Bradford, joiner, May 18, July 1: solicitors, Mr. Netherole, New-inn, London; Mr. M. Foster, Bradford; and Messrs. Harle and Clarke, Leeds.

BURBIDGE, GEORGE, 2, Moorgate-street, auctioneer, May 18, June 18: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers.

COGAN, ROBERT, 48, Leicester-square, glass merchant, May 15, June 12: solicitor, Mr. Richardson, Moorgate-street.

DUDDLELL, FREDERICK, Ryde, Isle of Wight, hair dresser, May 14, June 19: solicitor, Mr. Horsley, 2, Staple-inn.

FUGLER, WILLIAM, 10, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside, Manchester warehouseman, May 14, June 18: solicitor, Mr. Cox, Pinners-hall.

GROOM, SAMUEL, Whitechurch, auctioneer, May 18, June 19: solicitor, Mr. T. R. T. Hodgson, Birmingham.

HAWKINS, JABEZ, Nottingham, currier, May 21, June 18: solicitor, Mr. J. Bowley, Nottingham.

HOARE, FRANCIS BUCHANAN, Lincoln's-inn-fields, printer, May 14, June 24: solicitor, Mr. Sewell, Gray's-inn-square.

JONES, RAY JOSEPH, Basingstoke, tailor, May 19, June 23: solicitor, Mr. Heather, Paternoster-row.

LAXTON, JOHN, Chesham, linen draper, May 14, June 18: solicitors, Messrs. Heather and Co., Paternoster-row.

MELLOR, EDWARD, Ashton-under-Lyne, stone mason, May 19, June 9: solicitors, Messrs. Reed and Langford, Friday-street, Cheapside, London; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

RILEY, JAMES, Mount-place, Walworth, cheesemonger, May 17, June 14: solicitors, Messrs. Stevens and Co., Queen-street, Cheapside.

RUMSEY, JAMES, 3, Lansdowne-villas, Fulham-road, dry salter, May 14, June 18: solicitor, Mr. Skinner, Barnard's-inn, Holborn.

RYMER, RICHARD, Manchester, hotel keeper, May 19, June 10: solicitors, Messrs. Johnson and Co., Temple, London; and Messrs. C. and C. H. Wood, Manchester.

SAMSON, JOHN, Fordingbridge, surgeon, May 17, June 14: solicitor, Mr. Knight, Basinghall-street.

SHRA, JOHN, Aldermanbury, woollen warehouseman, May 18, June 18: solicitor, Mr. C. Wilson, Aldermanbury.

SWIFT, EDWARD, Walsall, saddlers' ironmonger, May 20, June 17: solicitors, Mr. Thomas, Walsall; Mr. J. Smith, Birmingham; and Messrs. Rickards and Walker, 29, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

TATE, JAMES, 6, Holles-street, Cavendish-square, boot maker, May 19, June 23: solicitor, Mr. Burder, Bloomsbury-square.

TIMPSON, HENRY CLARE, late of Tonbridge Wells, but now of Woolwich, surgeon, May 18, June 18: solicitors, Mr. Hughes, Chapel-street, Bedford-row; and Mr. Pearce, Woolwich.

TYLER, JAMES, Worcester, hop merchant, May 18, June 19: solicitor, Mr. Peachey, Salisbury-square, London.

WATKINS, JOHN, Wandsworth-road, licensed victualler, May 18, June 15: solicitors, Messrs. Shoubridge and Bramley, 3, Bedford-row.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

COCHRANE, WILLIAM, and Co., Kelvinhaugh, bleachers, May 10, 31.

BARLEY, SAMUEL CONNINGTON, and Co., Glasgow, silk, and mouseline-de-laine printers, May 11, June 3.

GARVEN, JOHN EWING, Irvine, timber and slate merchant, May 11, June 3.

GRIEVE, ROBERT, Roxburgh, miller, May 13, June 3.

KENNEDY, ALEXANDER, Edinburgh, merchant, May 12, June 2.

MACMILLAN, BRYCE, Glasgow, cabinet maker, May 13, June 4.

DIVIDENDS.

Jackson Barwise, 16, Pall-mall, house decorator, third div. of 1s. 7d.; at 12, Birch-lane, on May 10, and two following Mondays—Robert Greengrass Newby, Norwich, first div. of 1s. 3d.; at 12, Birch-lane, on May 10, and two following Mondays—William Groves, Huntingdon, grocer, final div. of 9d.; at 18, Aldermanbury, any Saturday—Joseph Jarvis and James Jarvis, Great Bush-lane, Cannon-street, wine merchants, first div. of 1s.; at 18, Aldermanbury, any Saturday—James and James Gale, Shadwell, rope manufacturer, div. of 2d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—John George Ufford, Islington, brewer, div. of 1s. 6d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—William Longbottom and Ralph Bentley, Rochdale, wool merchants, first div. of 2s., also a first div. of 2s. 10d. on the separate estate of William Longbottom; at 72, George-street, any Tuesday—Daniel Burton and John Burton, Middleton, cotton spinners, first div. of 2s. 4d.; at 72, George-street, Manchester, any Tuesday—William Bottle, Dover, grocer, first div. of 2s. 6d.; at 12, Abchurch-lane, on May 8, and two subsequent Saturdays—Michael Goodale, Holloway, builder, second div. of 1s. 7d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Edward Jones, sen., Budge-row, paste board manufacturer, second div. of 1d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday.

Tuesday, May 11.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Wesleyan Chapel, Alford, Lincolnshire.

St. John the Baptist Chapel, Ecclesall Bierlow, Yorkshire.

Ebenezer Chapel, Weobley, Herefordshire.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

DEACON, MARY, Norwich, carrier.

HUBBARD, CHARLES JOHN, 27, Crutched-friars, hop merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

BATES, JOSEPH, Leeds, sharebroker, May 25, July 1: solicitors, Messrs. Sharpe and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Mr. J. Priest, Leeds.

ELLIOTT, JOHN DYMCKE, Hemingford-place, Barnsbury-road, Islington, and 10, Giltspur-street, chemist, May 18, June 12: solicitors, Messrs. Jenkinson and Co., Lombard-st.

HEATHCOTE, ROBERT, 2, Clapham-common, omnibus-proprietor, May 26, June 24: solicitor, Mr. Dolman, Jernyn-street.

JEFFERY, WILLIAM, and THURLE, JOHN, Buckfastleigh, Devonshire, woollen manufacturers, May 27, June 23: solicitors, Messrs. Rhodes and Lane 63, Chancery-lane, London; and Mr. J. Stogdon, Exeter.

KING, HENRY WILLIAM, Oldham, furniture dealer, May 21, June 15: solicitors, Mr. W. F. Spinks, 39, Great James-street, London; and Mr. R. B. B. Cobbett, Manchester.

LEVENS, THOMAS, Charlstown, Cornwall, cooper, May 26, June 16: solicitors, Mr. E. Guillaume, 26, Bucklersbury, London; and Mr. C. H. Turner, Exeter.

MAY, EDWARD, 66 and 67, Oxford-street, ironmonger, May 24, June 24: solicitor, Mr. Fisher, Verulam-buildings.

PEARL, JAMES, Wilson-street, Dorset-square, horse dealer, May 18, June 22: solicitor, Mr. Robinson, Orchard-street, Portman-square.

REED, ROBERT, Bishop Middleham, Durham, common brewer, May 19, June 22: solicitors, Mr. R. Thompson, Durham; Mr. J. T. Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs. Crosby and Crompton, 3, Church-court, Old Jewry, London.

REYNOLDS, WILLIAM, 6, Eldon-street, Finsbury, bookbinder, May 22, July 3: solicitors, Messrs. Fry, Loxley, and Fry, 80, Cheapside.

SYRED, DANIEL, Bloomfield-road, Farningham, market gardener, May 18, June 22: solicitors, Messrs. Holmes and Co., Great James-street, Bedford-row.

TROTMAN, SIMON LEE, Liverpool, merchant, May 21, June 15: solicitors, Messrs. Holme and Co., New-inn, London; and Mr. Booker, Liverpool.

WATSON, HARRIS, 19, Wilson-street, Finsbury, stove-grate manufacturer, May 25, June 22: solicitor, Mr. G. Brown, Finsbury-place, Finsbury-square.

WEBB, THOMAS GEORGE, Wood-street, Cheapside, and Manchester, lace rounce manufacturer, May 18, June 22: solicitor, Mr. Lambert, Raymond-buildings.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JOHNSTONE, DANIEL, Holytown, Lanarkshire, spirit dealer, May 14, June 14.

LANG, WILLIAM FREDERICK, Glasgow, coal master, May 15, June 6.

MASSON, NINIAN, Leith, draper, May 14, June 4.
M'RAE, ALEXANDER, Inverness, draper, May 17, June 7.
THOMSON, JOHN, Irvine, Ayrshire, merchant, May 17, June 7.

DIVIDENDS.

William Frederick Rand, jun., Kennington, china dealer, first div. of 1s. 5d.; at 13, Old Jewry, May 12, and two following Wednesdays—James Knapton, 36, Praed-street, Paddington, stone mason, first div. of 3s.; at 13, Old Jewry, May 12, and two following Wednesdays—William Trice, 6, High-street, Stepney, grocer, first div. of 1s. 11d.; at 13, Old Jewry, May 12, and two following Wednesdays—William Rolfe, Thetford, Hertfordshire, farmer, second div. of 6d.; at 13, Old Jewry, May 12, and two following Wednesdays—John Richard, jun., Reading, banker, first div. of 6d.; at 13, Old Jewry, May 12, and two following Wednesdays—Peter Allan Hanford, Exeter, bookseller, a div. of 2s. 2d.; at Paul-street, Exeter, on and after May 12—John Gliddon, Plymouth, beer brewer, a div. of 7s. 6d.; at Paul-street, Exeter, on and after May 12—John Isaac Barber Wright, Liverpool, druggist, second div. of 7s. 10d.; at 19, South Castle-street, Liverpool, any Thursday—William Burns, Rhyll, Flintshire, draper, first div. of 2s. 3d.; at 11, Eldon-chambers, South John-street, Liverpool, any Thursday—Edward Rigmalden, Liverpool, wine dealer, first div. of 1s.; at 11, Eldon-chambers, South John-street, Liverpool, any Thursday—William Marshall and Henry Rodgers, Liverpool, iron founders, first div. of 2s. 6d.; at 11, Eldon-chambers, South John-street, Liverpool, any Thursday—Samuel Price, Blaenycwm, farmer, first div. of 7d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—William Miller, St. Melons, tailor, first div. of 1d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—John Henry Bedford, Bristol, artists' colourman, first div. of 1s. 6d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—Thomas Rickards, Wotton-under-Edge, watch maker, first div. of 7s. 6d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—Robert Naylor, Marlborough, victualler, first div. of 3s. 6d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—Joseph Metford, Bath, wine merchant, first div. of 2s. 2d.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 percent. Consols ..	86½	87½	87	86½	86½	86½
Ditto for Account ..	87½	87½	87½	86½	86½	86½
3 percent. Reduced ..	85½	86½	85½	85½	85½	85½
New 3½ percent.	87½	88½	87½	87½	87½	87½
Long Annuities	9	9	9	8½	9	9
Bank Stock	189	189	188	189	188½	189
India Stock	242	242	243	—	244	—
Exchequer Bills	6dis	9dis	par	1p	3p	5pm
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	2dis	par

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Belgian	98	Mexican	21½
Brazilian	86	Peruvian	39½
Buenos Ayres	43½	Portuguese 5 per cents ..	81
Columbian	16	Ditto converted	33
Danish	86½	Russian	112
Dutch 2½ per cents	56½	Spanish Active	234
Ditto 4 per cents	90	Ditto Passive	42
French 3 per cents	77½	Ditto Deferred	17½

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester ..	123	London & Croydon Trunk ..	21½
Blackwall	74	London and Greenwich ..	8½
Bristol and Exeter	74½	Manchester and Leeds ..	102
Eastern Counties	194	Midland Counties	116
Eastern Union	52	Ditto New Shares	39
Edinburgh and Glasgow ..	72	Manchester and Birming. ..	—
Great North of England ..	232	Midland and Derby	—
Great Western	115	Norfolk	131
Ditto Half	69½	North British	32
Ditto Fifths	28½	South Eastern and Dover ..	36½
London & North-Western ..	174	South Western	64½
Ditto Quarter Shares	22	York and Newcastle	31
London and Brighton	52½	York and North Midland ..	82

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 10.

During last week the arrivals of English Wheat were moderate, and prices advanced on Friday 5s. to 6s. per qr. At this morning's market the show of samples was again small, and at the commencement the factors asked very extreme rates, which could not be complied with; however, the trade was very excited, and finished at about 8s. to 10s. per qr. over the currency of last Monday for all descriptions. Barley is much inquired after, and buyers are compelled to pay 4s. per qr. advance. We have had a fair supply of foreign Oats, but very few of home growth; there has, however, been a good demand, and 2s. to 3s. per qr. has been generally made over the currency of this day so far. Beans and Peas are also 3s. per qr. higher. Indian Corn is inquired after, and cannot be bought at the prices of a week since.

Wheat, Red	88 to 98	Peas, Hog	57 to 60
New	92 to 98	Maple	58 to 63
White	96 to 100	Bollers	63 to 65
New	88 to 110	Beans, Ticks	50 to 52
Flour, per sack (Town) ..	75 to 80	Pigeon	57 to 61
Barley	48 to 50	Harrow	53 to 54
Malting	58 to 60	Oats, Feed	34 to 38
Malt, Ordinary	70 to 72	Fine	39 to 41
Pale	76 to 78	Poland	—
Rye	65 to 67	Potato	36 to 38

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR

	APRIL 16.		APRIL 16.
Wheat	74s. 5d.	Wheat	76s. 4d.
Barley	49 8	Barley	49 9
Oats	32 7	Oats	31 0
Rye	54 10	Rye	55 7
Beans	50 10	Beans	50 11
Peas	56 0	Peas	54 7

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 10.

The attendance of both town and country buyers being large, the Beef trade was brisk, at an advance on last Monday's quotations of quite 2d. per 8lbs., and at which a good clearance was effected. The numbers of Sheep were about average ones, and of excellent quality. The primest old Downs were mostly disposed of at fully last week's quotations—the highest, in the wool, being 6s. per 8lbs.; but all other breeds moved off slowly at barely late rates. The Lamb trade was active at an improvement in value of 2d. per 8lbs., the best Down qualities producing 6s. 4d. per 8lbs. The supply of Calves was good; while the Veal trade was heavy at barely previous currencies. Pigs were in good supply and sluggish inquiry at late rates.

Beef	3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.	Veal	4d. to 5s. 6d.
Mutton	4 2 to 6 0	Pork	3 8 to 5 2
Lamb	5s. 4d. to 6s. 4d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday ..	1,317	7,800	227	380
Monday ..	3,316	20,380	112	318

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 10.

	Per 8lbs. by the carcase.		Per 8lbs. by the carcase.
Inferior Beef 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.		Inf. Mutton 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.	
Middleling do 3 4 to 3 6		Mid. ditto 4 6 to 4 8	
Prime large 3 6 to 3 8		Prime ditto 4 10 to 5 0	
Prime small 3 8 to 3 10		Veal 4 6 to 5 4	
Large Pork 4 0 to 4 8		Small Pork 4 10 to 5 2	
Lamb	5s. 4d. to 6s. 4d.		

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—The seed trade remained in the same dull state as last week, and no change requiring notice occurred in quotations.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—Of business in the past week we have very little of interest to communicate. With an extensive demand for Butter for town and country, we received an excess of supply from abroad, and prices for such reduced 2s. to 4s. per cwt., notwithstanding the exhausted stock of Irish. Prices of English Butter show a downward tendency. In Bacon the dealings in signed sides were unimportant, as the small delivery indicates; but holders were not disposed to sell at less than from 7s. to 80s. per

cwt., according to size and quality. For bale and tierce middles, Hams, and Lard, the demand and prices ruled nearly the same as last reported. There has been a little more inquiry during the past week for all descriptions of Cheese, but the buying has been very sparing, the mongers not liking to submit to the prices demanded.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 10.—There has been a good demand during the last week for the better descriptions of Hops, and prices have slightly advanced, and remain firm at the following currency:—Mid. and East Kents, 98s. to 135s.; Weald of Kents, 90s. to 100s.; Sussex Pockets, 79s. to 90s.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 9d. to 10½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 3,627 bales, being 2,807 from Callao, 526 from Van Diemen's Land, 137 from Bombay, 101 from Odessa, and the rest from Germany, &c. The total quantity of Wool declared for auction is about 13,000 bales, 9,500 of which are Colonial. There is a tolerably good attendance at these sales, and but for the state of the money market, it was considered that last sales' prices would have been maintained. The quantity put up is comparatively small, and as the manufacturers are supposed to be in want of the staple, this assists prices.—Leeds, May 7.—Sales during the present week have been flat and prices are without alteration.

TALLOW, LONDON, May 10.—We have still to notice a very heavy demand for Tallow, both on the spot and for forward delivery. The stock on hand is very small; yet parties evinced no disposition to speculate. Town Tallow is in fair supply at our quotations.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET, Saturday.

	Bales.
Taken on speculation this year	159,500
" " 1846	44,750
Stock in Liverpool the 31st Dec., 1846 ..	438,970
" " 1845	885,480
Forwarded unsold this year	15,500
Ditto, last year	20,640
Decrease of import at Liverpool in 1847 ..	27,659
Decrease in stock, as compared with last year ..	263,400
Quantity taken for consumption this year ..	339,700
" " 1845, same period	525,300
Decrease of quantity taken for consumption ..	185,600

There has been a fair inquiry for cotton to-day. The sales amount to 3,000 bales, all to the trade, at steady prices.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, May 8.—At per load of 36 trusses. Meadow

Stewart's, 20s. 6d.; Hetton's, 20s. 6d.; Braddyll's Hetton's, 20s. 3d.; Lambton's, 20s. 0d.; West Hartley's, 18s. 0d. Ships arrived this week, 360.

COAL EXCHANGE, May 7.

52s. to 78s. | Clover Hay

Straw

GROCERIES, LONDON, Tuesday, May 11.

SUGAR.—There was a better demand in the British Plantation market. The trade bought 360 hhds and tierces at full prices; the advance, on Friday last, is 6d. per cwt. Refined goods sold at better prices; standard lumps selling at 63s. 6d., and brown grocery at 62s. 6d. per cwt. 10,000 bags Mauritius, in auction, fetched advanced rates.

TEA.—The deliveries are 496,700 lbs.; the market is very dull. 620 packages Assam are declared for sale for 18th May.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE ATRAPILATORY, OR LIQUID HAIR DYE; the only dye that really answers for all colours, and does not require re-doing but as the hair grows, as it never fades or acquires that unnatural red or purple tint common to all other dyes.

BOTANIC WATER and BEAR'S GREASE.—When the hair is becoming thin and falling off, the only effectual remedy besides shaving the head is the use of the two above-named articles, applied alternately—the botanic water to cleanse the roots from scurf, and as a stimulant, and the bear's grease as a nourisher.

THE NEW TOOTH-PICK BRUSH, thoroughly cleansing between the teeth, when used up and down, and polishing the surface when used crossways. The hair warranted never to come out.

THE UNION and TRIPLE HAIR-BRUSHES. THE DOUBLE ANTI-PRESSURE NAIL-BRUSH. THE MEDIUM SHAVING-BRUSH. THE RAILWAY STROP and POWDER.

The above new and elegant articles, in addition to a very extensive assortment of beautiful PERFUMES, are the sole MANUFACTURES and INVENTIONS of Messrs. ROSS and SONS, 119 and 120, Bishopsgate-street, London.

STEPHENS' CONCENTRATED AND SOLUBLE INK POWDERS.

THE PROPRIETOR of these Articles having long considered that it would be greatly to the convenience of the Public to be furnished with the chief elementary parts of Ink in a dry state, yet so readily soluble in water as to be fit for immediate use, has long turned his attention to the subject. He has not been contented to produce a Powder containing the crude ingredients of Ink, such as has hitherto been known, but he has aimed at producing one which, by the addition of water only, shall instantly and at once form an Ink fit for immediate use, and which shall be equal in quality to the best Liquid Ink. The following Preparations will be found to answer fully the above purposes: they consist of—

First—A Soluble Powder for making **BLACK INK** of the best description and quality, excellent in colour, and very fluid.

Second—A Soluble Powder for making the **BLUE-BLACK WRITING FLUID**, originally produced by the Proprietor of these articles, and which has been so extensively used, and so justly appreciated.

Third—A Soluble Blue Powder, which makes the **UNCHANGABLE BLUE INK**, and which the Proprietor has the exclusive right to manufacture by patent.

These Powders are put up in three different sized packages: the smallest size may be obtained singly, or in packets containing half a dozen. They, as well as the next size, are so shaped (triangular) that, by cutting off an angle, the contents may be emptied as from a funnel into any glass vessel or inkholder, to be mixed with the requisite quantity of water, to make ink for immediate use.

The largest size packages, No. 3, are sufficient to make a Quart. It has been thought that there is no necessity to make larger Packages, as any quantity of Ink can be made from these by taking the requisite number of Packages for the number of Quarts or Gallons. The convenience of the smaller Package is, that a Packet containing half a dozen may be kept in a Writing Desk, by which the Inkholder may be supplied, by emptying into it one of the Powders, and adding about an ounce or two table-spoonfuls of water as often as required. The convenience of these small Packages while travelling is very manifest, as it saves carrying about more Liquid Ink than is required for present use.

The next size Package, No. 2, contains sufficient to make Half-a-pint of Ink at once; and as half-a-pint of Ink, with the bottle, will weigh at least sixty times the weight of the Powder necessary to make that quantity, its convenience, even for carrying in the pocket, is something; and when it is considered, that to put it into a bottle, and pour water to it, is not more trouble than to draw a cork from a bottle, its advantage on many occasions is very apparent.

The Black Ink is sold in Packages at 1d., 6d., and 1s. 6d. each. The smallest size is usually put up in Packages containing six in each, at 6d. per Packet.

The Blue-Black, and the Unchangeable Blue, in Packages at 1½d. 9d., and 2s. each.

A Liberal Discount to the Trade and to Shippers.

Prepared and sold by HENRY STEPHENS, Inventor and Proprietor of the Writing Fluids, 54, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road, London; and by all Booksellers and Stationers throughout the Kingdom.

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PROFESSION; or, a GLIMPSE of the WORLD TO COME.

The dying man had breathed his last sigh; the minister offered his parting supplication, and the soul quitted its clay tenement!

On my return to my habitation, I retired to my chamber, and sought to improve and bring home the solemn scene I had just witnessed. Plausible, thought I, was a successful man in business, persevering and frugal in his habits, and, by industry, had realised a very ample fortune. He was a professor of religion, and admitted into fellowship as a disciple of Him who hath vanquished death, and hath brought life and immortality to life through the Gospel.

My mind having been much exercised, as to a numerous class of persons who belong to Christian churches, but are by far too much engrossed with the cares of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, I at length sunk into a profound sleep; and, "in thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falleth on men," I was carried back to the chamber of mortality. The veil which separates time from eternity was drawn aside, an angelic form stood by the side of the couch, and, with solemn voice, thus announced his commission:—"Professor! I am sent to bear thy spirit hence to the presence of that holy and pure being who gave it; and shortly shall thy body return to the earth as it was!"

At that instant, "the silver cord was loosed," the world, with all its allurements, honours, and ambition, was a tale that is told; and immortality, in all its dread greatness, stood present to view! Words of unutterable importance greeted my ears, of which I may select the following:—"This day," said the disembodied spirit, "has come upon me as a thief in the night. I have not realised it as I should have done. I am not prepared for it as I ought to be!"

"Have you the roll of evidence," rejoined the Angelic Messenger, "to prove your citizenship and right to the tree of life, and all that appertains to the heavenly Jerusalem?"

"Alas!" replied Plausible, "I fear it has been mislaid among a great heap of papers, bills of lading, titles of houses and fields, and various parchments which secured my temporal interests. For some years, the heavenly title-deeds have almost slipped away from my treacherous heart."

"The means you possessed," reiterated the Celestial Messenger, "enabled you to do much good; as we approach the gates of the city which hath foundations, we shall hear of some who have visited you upon earth, in hopes of receiving your aid and countenance in favour of different charities and works of benevolence; some of these have entered into rest, and, considering your influence and opulence, it is reasonable to expect you cheered their drooping spirits, and greatly encouraged them in every labour of love; others, perhaps, we may overtake, just as they are about being received into the mansions prepared for them, who have been gathered out of the heathen world by the labours of faithful missionaries; a good share of your wealth, it is not too much to expect, flowed through this hallowed channel."

"Woe is me!" replied Plausible. "When such visitors knocked at my door, I excused myself from seeing them, or declined giving to their objects, as I was very busy, or could not attend to the numerous calls of the present day, so distinguished by religious activity and enterprise. I had various excuses at hand: If Dissenters called upon me, I said I had quitted Dissent and was now a Churchman; if Churchmen sought for my assistance, my answer was, I could not altogether forsake my old friends! If a generous spirit is essential to the Christian character, and if all who go to Heaven are justly described as having, according to their means, 'devised liberal things,' I should make a sorry appearance there! Oh, that I had been wise, and considered my latter end! Oh, how am I now pierced through with many sorrows, from the love, not of Christ and immortal souls, but of money, which I have made my great confidence, and of fine gold, to which my heart has said, 'Thou art my trust!'"

When arrived at the portals of bliss, there was a Williams entering through the gates of the city, having a distinctive badge, the crown of martyrdom; there was a Howard, or one possessed of a kindred spirit, who had visited the prisoners, the poor and the miserable, in their dungeons or their hovels; there was a Wilson, a noble spirit of the very first order in works of Christian enterprise, generous, devoted, honoured, whose praise is in all the churches; there was a triumphant band of Christian warriors, who had gotten the victory, "by the word of their testimony, and by the blood of the Lamb;" to these were the gates of the city set wide open, and so they had an abundant entrance ministered to them, that they might for ever and ever partake of the joys of their Lord. But now it was too plain that Plausible's religion was all a deception; for, as soon as he arrived at the pearly gates, no one welcomed him in, or seemed to think that Heaven was his place. The door was shut, and the sentence came forth, as if "seven thunders uttered their voices," "Take ye the unprofitable servant, bind him hand and foot, and cast him."—Before the words were concluded, I saw him fall into an agony of despair; I heard him utter a most piercing cry, begging and entreating that the door might be opened to him, but in vain! and so terrible was the sight of this man's lost condition, that I instantly awoke, and the Apostles' injunction came powerfully to mind, "Charge those that are rich in this world, that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy: that they do good, that they be rich in good works."—1 Tim. vi.

C. G. T.

Dear Friends, Professors of the Gospel.—The following case of distress has not been sufficiently responded to; we are most anxiously waiting for your kind aid in behalf of a destitute widow and three fatherless orphans:—

The Rev. J. McCASKEY, a faithful Minister of the Gospel, after a long and wearisome illness, contracted in the discharge of his laborious duties, as an Agent of the Irish Evangelical Society, has been called to his everlasting rest—to himself, it is believed, a most blessed change; to his widow and family, an irreparable loss. This afflicted woman, with three little orphans, is now placed in the most painful circumstances; no earthly relation has she that can take her up, and no means of support for herself and fatherless children. Friends of the Saviour—This bereaved widow looks to you, at this critical period of her existence, for sympathy and commiseration. British Christians—You have sympathized with the perishing millions of Ireland, and this poor widow is an inhabitant of that land; and surely you will not allow her to remain unprotected for the time of her deep distress and sorrow of heart. You have kindly administered to the necessities of the most abject and destitute; and by this domestic affliction she is bereft of her support—she is desolate indeed. And remember she belongs to the household of faith.

You have subscribed £8,000 to the relief funds of the Irish Evangelical Society for alleviating the frightful mass of poverty and destitution now afflicting the sister country; and this liberal sum you have bestowed to save human beings from perishing by hunger and disease, and this without restriction as to religious character or profession. In so doing, you have shown your willingness to obey the precept, "Do good to all men;" but you know that lovely Christian exhortation is followed by an emphatic word "especially do good to those who are of the household of faith." Your charity will not be apostolic and complete, if the widow of a faithful preacher of the everlasting Gospel be suffered to pine away under her painful bereavement, and at last go down to the grave uncheered, neglected, forsaken. Members of Christian Churches, will you not kindly exert yourselves to raise a fund of about £200, and then some business may be undertaken which will yield support to the mother, and enable her to train up her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

C. G. TOWNLEY, LL.D.

6, St. George's-place, Brixton-road, March 22, 1847.

The Committee of the Irish Evangelical Society most sincerely recommend this urgent appeal to the kind consideration of the religious public; and subscriptions for this pressing object will be thankfully received at the Society's Office, by the Rev. T. James, Secretary, Blomfield-street, Finsbury; Rev. E. Brown, Cemetery, Leeds; and the Rev. E. Nolan, I.L.D., Manchester.

	£	s.	d.
A Friend, per Rev. G. Rose, Bermondsey....	5	0	0
Dr. Townley.....	5	0	0
G. T., per ditto.....	5	0	0
Friends at Highgate, per Rev. M. A. Garvey..	2	0	0
Rev. John Burnet.....	1	0	0
Thomas M. Coombs, Esq.....	1	0	0
Rev. T. James.....	1	0	0
E., per ditto.....	1	0	0
G. W., per ditto.....	1	0	0
Rev. J. Miller.....	1	0	0
Mr. G. M. Hinde, Ramsgate.....	1	0	0
Mr. N. Lincoln, Halesworth, Suffolk.....	0	10	0
Mr. Ashby, Royal Artillery, Jersey.....	0	5	0
Rev. E. Brown, Leeds.....	1	0	0
Rev. Wm. Thorn, Winchester.....	1	0	0
Rev. R. Ashton, Putney.....	0	10	0
J. H. Puget, Esq., Totteridge.....	5	0	0

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JAMAICA.—GOVERNMENT EDUCATION.

AT A MEETING held at **SALTER'S-HILL, St. James'**, on the 2nd day of APRIL, 1847,
ISRAEL LEVY LEWIN, Esq., in the Chair,

It was unanimously resolved:—

1. That this meeting is deeply impressed with the importance of secular, moral, and religious instruction, and believes that the extensive diffusion of such instruction would be of great advantage to the whole community; and rejoices that three day-schools, originated and sustained by voluntary efforts, are connected with the Salter's-hill congregation, which afford the means of education to a large and important district.

2. That this meeting has heard with alarm, that a circular addressed to his Excellency, the Governor of this island, by the Colonial Secretary, has been laid before the House of Assembly, recommending for adoption a plan of compulsory education, to be enforced by fine, and sustained by taxation; and regards the proposition as having a direct and powerful bearing on civil and religious liberty, being hostile to the rights of conscience, and injurious to the advancement of scriptural religion.

3. That this meeting is of opinion that it is not within the province of the State to interfere with the secular and moral instruction of its subjects; it deprecates every system of Government education, as dangerous to national liberty; and it is opposed to the distribution of Government grants, professedly in aid of voluntary efforts, as unjust to those who disapprove of peculiar systems of education, and as a great hindrance to the full development of educational benevolence.

4. That the above resolutions be published in the *Patriot* and *Nonconformist* London newspapers.

(Signed) I. L. LEWIN, Chairman.
WALTER DENDY, Minister, Salter's-hill.

ANTI-SLAVERY LEAGUE.

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING will be held at **FINSBURY CHAPEL**, on **WEDNESDAY EVENING**, the 19th MAY.

The Chair will be taken at Six o'clock precisely, by
DR. BOWRING, M.P.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY of the UNION will be held in **CROSBY-HALL SHOPS-GATE-STREET**, Rev. R. W. HAMILTON, D.D., in the Chair.

SECOND SESSION, FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 14, Chair to be taken at Half-past Nine o'clock, precisely.

THIRD SESSION, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 15, in the **CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY**, on **EDUCATION**, Chair to be taken at Ten o'clock.

ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Society will be held in **EXETER-HALL**, on **TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 10th, 1847**.

WILLIAM HUNTER, Esq., Alderman, will take the Chair at Six o'clock.

EDWARD ALEXANDER DUNN, Secretaries.
ALGERNON WELLS,

Tickets of Admission may be had at the Society's Rooms, Congregational Library, 4, Blomfield-street, Finsbury; at Mr. Snow's, 35, Paternoster-row; and Messrs. Nisbet and Co.'s, Berners-street, on and after the 8th of May.

COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY will be held in the **WEIGH-HOUSE CHAPEL, FISH STREET-HILL**, on **FRIDAY EVENING, the 14th of MAY, 1847**. Chair to be taken by the Treasurer, **J. R. MILLS, Esq.**, at Six o'clock precisely.

ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the SOCIETY will be held at the **WHITE HART TAVERN**, Bishopsgate-street, London, on **MONDAY, May 17th, 1847**. TEA at SEVEN o'clock, p.m. The Chair will be taken at HALF-PAST SEVEN, by **JOS. T. PRICE, Esq.**

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in **FINSBURY CHAPEL**, on **TUESDAY, May 18th, 1847**. **CHARLES HINDLEY, Esq.**, M.P., President of the Society, has engaged to take the Chair, at HALF-PAST SIX o'clock, p.m. Doors open at SIX.

JOHN JEFFERSON, Secretary.

ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY of this SOCIETY will be held at **CROSBY HALL**, Bishopsgate-street, on **Monday, May 17th, 1847**. The President, **SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq.**, in the chair, which will be taken at one o'clock.

Tickets of admission may be obtained at J. Olivier's, 59, Pall-mall; J. Nisbet's, Berners-street; C. Gilpin's, Bishopsgate-street-without; and at Crosby Hall.

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W. H. L. STRUDWICKE, Sub Secretary.

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ONE THOUSAND POUNDS.—PRIZE PICTURES. Subject: BAPTISM OF CHRIST IN THE JORDAN. The Competition Works of Art have been two years in preparing. The Canvas is Fifteen Feet by Twelve Feet. This Exhibition has been honoured with a private visit by his Royal Highness the Prince Albert, and is now open to the Public daily from Nine till Six. Admission, One Shilling; Families of Five, four Shillings. Picture Gallery, late Chinese Exhibition, Hyde-Park-corner.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF IRELAND.

THE TREASURER of the above Society has received from the Committee of the Irish Evangelical Society, per Rev. T. James, the sum of £576 17s., awarded at Birmingham, on the 23rd of March last, as the settlement of their disputed money account by the Committee appointed in Plymouth, at the October Meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

The Committee of the Irish Union rejoice in this settlement of an important matter affecting the progress of their work, and hail the prospect of united and vigorous action for the propagation of truth in Ireland, presented by the interposition and counsels of the Plymouth Committee.

As the accounts for the year are closed on the 31st of May, the Committee take this opportunity of earnestly requesting all subscribers and collectors to forward to the Treasurer, without delay, all contributions available for their Mission Fund. And while they most gratefully present their united thanks to their kind friends in England who have so liberally contributed for the relief of the temporal sufferings of the Irish people, they express their confident hope, and present their earnest appeal, that more strenuous efforts than ever may be made by British Congregationalists to support the labours of the Irish Congregational Union, for the enlightenment and salvation of this suffering and degraded land.

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, T. Turner, Esq., Royal Bank, Foster-place, Dublin, or by

W. URWICK, } Secretaries.
A. KING, }
H. LEACHMAN, }
Dublin, May 8, 1847.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THURSDAY, May 13.—MORNING, the PUBLIC MEETING will be held at **EXETER-HALL**, in the STRAND. The Chair will be taken precisely at Ten o'clock, by Sir EDWARD NORTH BUXTON, Bart.

EVENING, an Adjourned Meeting will be held in **FINSBURY CHAPEL**, Blomfield-street. The Chair to be taken at Six o'clock, By the Rev. JOHN LEIFCHILD, D.D.

FRIDAY, May 14.—A Sermon will be preached to the Juvenile Friends of the Society, by the Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, of Westminster, at **POULTRY CHAPEL**. Service to commence at half-past Six o'clock.

LORD'S-DAY, May 16.—Sermons will be preached, and collections made, at various places of worship in London and its vicinity, as follows:—

Aldermanbury Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. E. J. Hartland. Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington—Morning and Evening, Rev. John Jefferson.

Barbican Chapel—Morning, Rev. James Parsons; Evening, Rev. T. Boaz.

Bethnal Green—Morning, Rev. A. Fraser; Evening, Rev. James Griffin.

Bi-hopsgate Chapel—Morning, Rev. W. A. Hurdall; Evening, Rev. D. E. Ford.

Brentford (Boston-road)—Morning and Evening, Rev. Geo. Mundy. Chadwell-street, Pentonville—Morning, Rev. J. Barfitt; Evening, Rev. D. T. Carnson.

Clapham—Morning, Rev. James Hill; Evening, Rev. Thomas Smith. Clapton Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Algernon Wells.

Claremont Chapel—Morning, Rev. John Kelly; Evening, Rev. D. K. Shobotham.

Collier's Rents Chapel, Borough—Morning, Rev. Thomas Joseph; Evening, Rev. John Sibree.

Coverdale Chapel, Limehouse—Morning, Rev. H. S. Seaborn; Evening, Rev. J. Barfitt.

Craven Chapel—Morning, Rev. Dr. James Legge; Evening, Rev. James Hill.

Croydon—Morning, Rev. John Sibree; Evening, Rev. John Elrick. Deptford—Morning and Evening, Rev. Dr. Jackson.

Ealing—Morning and Evening, Rev. John Frost. Enfield—Morning and Afternoon, Rev. S. A. Davies.

Enfield, Highway—Morning and Evening, Rev. T. Fielding. Falcon-square Chapel—Morning, Rev. Dr. Bennett; Evening, Rev. John Kennedy.

Fetter-lane Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Caleb Morris. Finchley—Morning, Rev. Samuel Thodey; Evening, Rev. G. R. Burch.

Finchley, Cottagers' Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Robert Philip.

Greenwich, Maize-hill—Morning, Rev. H. B. Jeula; Evening, Rev. James Roberts.

Greenwich, Tabernacle—Morning, Rev. William Lucy; Evening, Rev. Archibald Jack.

Hackney, St. Thomas's-square—Morning, Rev. John Burder; Evening, Rev. James Parsons.

Hammersmith, Broadway—Morning, Rev. J. T. Cumming; Evening, Rev. Joseph Moore.

Hammersmith, Ebenezer Chapel—Morning, Rev. Joseph Moore; Evening, Rev. C. Rattray.

Hare-court Chapel—Morning, Rev. W. H. Stowell; Evening, Rev. W. S. Palmer.

Harley-street Chapel, Bow—Morning, Rev. S. Davies; Evening, Rev. R. Machray.

Holloway—Morning and Evening, Rev. A. J. Morris. Holywell Mount Chapel—Morning, Rev. D. E. Ford; Evening, Rev. W. A. Hurdall.

Horsleydown, Union Chapel—Morning, Rev. H. L. Adams; Evening, Rev. William Rose.

Islington, Lower-street—Morning, Rev. J. J. Freeman; Evening, Rev. P. Thomson.

Islington, Union Chapel—Morning, Rev. J. A. James; Afternoon, Rev. T. Joseph; Evening, Rev. Dr. Halley.

Islington, Barnsbury Chapel—Morning, Rev. C. Gilbert; Evening, Rev. James Stratton.

Jewin-street Chapel—Evening, Rev. W. Campbell. Kensington—Morning, Rev. Dr. Halley; Evening, Rev. W. Legg.

Kingsland Chapel—Morning, Rev. T. W. Aveling; Afternoon, Rev. J. Rowland; Evening, Rev. James Spence.

Lewisham—Morning, Rev. William Rose; Evening, Rev. Robert Ashton.

Maberley Chapel—Morning, Rev. John Bristow; Evening, Rev. Samuel Thodey.

Marlborough Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Henry Richard. Mile-end, Latimer Chapel—Morning, Rev. John Saunders; Evening, Rev. H. L. Adams.

Mile-end, New Town—Morning and Evening, Rev. Wm. Tyler. New Court Chapel—Morning, Rev. J. Spence; Evening, Rev. J. Rowland.

Norwood—Morning and Evening, Rev. Benjamin Kent. Orange-street Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Samuel Luke.

Oxenden-street—Morning, Rev. James Roberts; Evening, Rev. Alexander Fraser.

Pavement Chapel, New North-road—Morning, Rev. James Spence; Evening, Rev. J. L. Poore.

Pimlico, Buckingham Chapel—Morning, Rev. E. A. Dunn; Evening, Rev. Rev. Thomas Mann.

Plaistow—Morning and Evening, Rev. S. Curwen. Poplar, Trinity Chapel—Morning, Rev. George Smith; Evening, Rev. John Ely.

Poultry Chapel—Morning, Rev. James Griffin; Evening, Rev. Dr. Hamilton.

Putney Chapel—Morning, Rev. Robert Ashton; Evening, Rev. John Hill.

Queen-street Chapel, Ratcliffe—Morning, Rev. J. V. Mummery; Evening, Rev. Josiah Bull.

Robert-street Chapel—Morning, Rev. D. K. Shobotham; Evening, Rev. John Bristow.

Sion Chapel—Morning, Rev. J. G. Miall; Evening, Rev. John Carter.

Spafelds—Evening, Rev. J. J. Freeman. Stepney—Morning, Rev. Thomas Boaz; Evening, Rev. Dr. Bennett.

Stockwell—Morning, Rev. D. Thomas; Evening, Rev. T. G. Stamper. Tabernacle—Morning, Rev. Dr. Campbell; Evening, Rev. John Kelly.

Tottenham Court-road—Morning, Rev. John Ely; Evening, Rev. Dr. Legge.

Tottenham Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. J. De K. Williams. Tooting—Morning and Evening, Rev. John Jukes.

Totteridge—Morning and Evening, Rev. G. Christie. Union-street Chapel—Morning, Rev. J. Waddington; Evening, Rev. H. Allon.

Walthamstow—Morning, Rev. R. Mackray; Evening, Rev. J. W. Richardson.

Walworth, York-street Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Thomas Adkins.

Weighhouse Chapel—Morning and Evening, Rev. Thomas Binney. Well-street Chapel—Morning, Rev. P. Thomson; Evening, Rev. W. H. Stowell.

Whitefield Chapel—Morning, Rev. John Elrick; Evening, Rev. John Hunt.

MONDAY, May 17.—EVENING.—The Sacrament of the Lord's supper will be administered, at the following places, to those Members and Friends of the Society who are Stated Communicants, and who produce Tickets from their respective Ministers, viz:—

Sion Chapel—Rev. John Angell James to preside. Craven Chapel—Rev. Thomas Adkins, Southampton, do.

Falcon-square Chapel—Rev. George Clayton, do. Surrey Chapel—Rev. John Clayton, A.M., do.

Claremont Chapel—Rev. John Harris, D.D., do. St. Thomas's-square, Hackney—Rev. James Parsons, of York, do.

Stockwell Chapel—Rev. John Burnet, do. Maberley Chapel—Rev. John Kelly, Liverpool, do.

Tottenham Court-road Chapel—Rev. R. W. Hamilton, D.D., LL.D., of Leeds, do.

Manover Chapel, Peckham—Rev. Henry J. Gamble, do. Trevor Chapel, Chelsea—Rev. John Ely, Leeds, do.

Greenwich Tabernacle—Rev. W. H. Stowell, Rotherham, do. Westminster Chapel—Rev. James Hill.

Services to begin at SIX o'clock.

* * A Collection, for the benefit of the Institution, will be made at each of the Places.

ARTHUR TIDMAN, } Secretaries.
JOS. JOHN FREEMAN, }

Mission-house, Blomfield-street, Finsbury,
12th May, 1847.

THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1837.

Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament, 3d Vict., c. xx., and 10 Vict., c. l.

62, King William-street, London; and 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh.

Capital, ONE MILLION.

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In May, 1843, a Bonus was declared to Life Assurers on Table No. II., equivalent to 12 per cent. on the gross premiums which have been paid. A further Bonus of 104 per cent. was declared to Ministerial Assurers, making to such of them as were assured on Table II. a total Bonus of 224 per cent.

TABLE, No. II.

WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

Premiums for the Assurance of £100, payable at Death.

20	30	40	50	60
£ s. d. 1 12 0	£ s. d. 2 1 5	£ s. d. 2 15 7	£ s. d. 4 1 1	£ s. d. 6 5 3

TABLE, No. II.

WITH PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

The Assured's share in the profits, two-thirds, to be applied, at his option, in reduction of the future premiums, or paid in cash, or added in reversionary value to the sum assured.

For the Assurance of £100, payable at Death.

20	30	40	50	60
£ s. d. 1 18 2	£ s. d. 2 8 5	£ s. d. 3 3 7	£ s. d. 4 10 3	£ s. d. 6 10 3

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

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A MOST STRIKING LIKENESS of Mr. EDWARD MIALI, Editor of the *Nonconformist*, is now ready.

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SPARROW'S CONTINENTAL COFFEE, at 1s. 8d. per lb.

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